this passage—"Sick (read ill) as he was, Lord Westbury wanted not more presence of mind; perhaps he might be used to such dilemmas, and the expedient he took to save me, by no means a new one to him." Or of this—"*Who* do I see in the house but yourself?"

There is no occasion for us to conclude the article with our general opinion of the merit of the work, as we have sufficiently given that in the course of our observations.

On the Landed Property of England, an Elementary and Practical Treatise, containing the Purchase, the Improvement, and the Management of Landed Estates. By Mr. Marshall. 4to. Pp. 450. Nicols. 1804.

On the Management of Landed Estates: a general Work for the use of Professional Men; being an Abstract of the more enlarged Treatise on Landed Property recently published. By Mr. Marshall. 8vo. Pp. 448. Longman and Co. 1806.

THE best mode of cultivating land is an object of such national importance, that every writer, who can throw even the faintest ray of additional light upon it, is deserving of public thanks. But when a man has made this pursuit the study of his life, and joins practical knowledge to theoretical, if he have a mind unclogged with prejudices, and unenslaved by *system*, and sits down to impart the results of his experience to the world, candidly and fairly, without affectation, and without a view to promote any other end than that of communicating useful information to the Public, he has unquestionably very strong claims to the gratitude of his country. Mr. Marshall is certainly entitled to particular attention, from his great experience. Our readers will scarcely fail to recollect, that we met with him in a very early stage of our critical journey, in the capacity of an agent to the Board of Agriculture; and that, while we gave him full credit for his qualifications for the office which he had undertaken, we found ourselves under the necessity (as, indeed, did some of our correspondents also) of censuring him severely for travelling out of his way, and taking upon him to represent *tithes*, not only as extremely burdensome to the land-holder, but as serious obstructions to the progress of agricultural improvements. As Mr. Marshall did not condescend to defend himself against the just attacks which were then made upon him, as it was his bounden duty to do, we had a right to impute his silence, either to conscious inability, or else to a conviction of his error.—The latter imputation, however, was evidently unjust; for here we find him, after a lapse of several years, returning to the charge, and advancing the same preposterous and mischievous fallacy, without a shadow of argument to support it. But though the book was not published till 1804 (and did not fall into our hands till very lately), the

the passage concerning tithes appears to have been written three years before; whence we infer that much study and labour have been bestowed on the publication, and that, of course, it has less claim to indulgence for errors of any kind.

"TITHES.—If in valuing lands they are considered as tithe-free, the tithe, or modus, if any, requires to be deducted, as an incumbrance. And seeing the great variation in the values of tithes and moduses, according to customs and plans of occupation, it is the plainest way of proceeding to value all lands as free of tithe, and afterward to make an allowance for whatever they may be estimated to be worth: an allowance which, in some cases, as on *corn-land* estates, forms a considerable portion of the fee-simple value of the lands; while on grass-land estates, especially such as are *pastured by cattle*, this incumbrance, so galling to the corn-grower, is in great part avoided. This single fact sufficiently shows the political impropriety of tithes at this day (1801) when the country is nearly famishing, a second time, for want of *corn*." P. 17.

Again, in page 21, we are told, that tithes are "a tax on improvements, and an obstacle to the growth of corn."

Now, with all due deference to this magnus Apollo of the Board of Agriculture, we shall take leave to observe, that he has himself proved that tithes are no hardship at all. For he shews us, what indeed common sense must have demonstrated to every man who thought on the subject, that in estimating the value of land, an adequate deduction is made by the purchaser for tithes, as well as for all other outgoings; and, of course, when a farmer hires a farm, he makes the same deduction from the rent, so that neither in fact pays for that portion of the produce, which, from divine authority, is appropriated to the minister. Hence, it is evident, that tithes are no greater hardship on the landholder, and no greater obstacle to the improvement of the land, or to the growth of corn, than *rent*; and there is not one argument applicable to the abolition of tithes, which will not apply, with at least equal force, to rent; and, unquestionably, the legislature have full as much right to abolish the latter, as they have to abolish the former. Here senseless declaimers should remember, that one of the first measures adopted by the regicides of France, was the abolition of tithes, and the seizure of all church property. The consequence is known; and, should we ever be so lost to honesty and shame as to have recourse to similar plunder in this country, we may rest assured that we shall experience similar effects. We were pleased to observe, that, in his *Abstract*, Mr. Marshall has omitted the offensive part of the passage quoted above.

In his view of Landed Property Mr. Marshall begins *ab ovo*, and traces his subject through all its various ramifications, with a minuteness, that, to us at least, appears alike prolix and unnecessary. We admit, however, that there is no description of persons in this kingdom standing in need of instruction so much as those gentlemen yeleped *Surveyors*, who take upon themselves to fix a value upon land.

land. There are, no doubt, among them, some men of knowledge and judgment, with every qualification which such a profession requires; but the herd, particularly in the metropolis, are a compound of ignorance and presumption. Mr. Marshall, therefore, might very reasonably think, that in endeavouring to give them some insight into the elementary principles of their profession, he should not only render a service to *them*, but also perform a work of utility to the public. After some preliminary observations on the mode of valuing land, by its quality, situation, &c. Mr. Marshall says, with great truth:

"It is almost needless to observe, that, to acquire the degree of judgment necessary to this critical task, it is necessary to know the productiveness of lands of different *appearances;* a species of knowledge which scarcely any thing but mature practice, in the cultivation of lands of different qualities, can sufficiently teach; though long habit may do much, in ordinary cases, towards *hitting off* the value of lands, without an extensive knowledge of the practice of agriculture. There are, however, cases, in which we find both of these qualifications insufficient to give an accuracy of judgment, even among provincial valuers. *And a man who ventures to step forward as a universal valuist, should either have an extraordinary talent for his line of profession, or should, after a suitable initiation, have had great experience in rural concerns in various parts of the kingdom.*"

We heartily wish that the *metropolitan surveyors*, and still more, *their employers*, would attend to this. Mr. Marshall's remarks on the utility of *registers*, are perfectly just; and we sincerely concur with him in the wish, that the advantage now enjoyed, in this respect, by *two* counties, may speedily be extended over the whole kingdom. In reading his panegyric on the late Duke of Bridgewater, whom he represents as "a man who has done more real and substantial good to his country, than all the state ministers of his time," we could not suppress a smile. We are not disposed to question the utility of such speculating men as the nobleman alluded to, who certainly did much good to that part of the country which was the scene of his speculations, and full as much to himself also. But, without impeaching the accuracy of Mr. Marshall's judgment, or the wisdom of his decisions, we humbly conceive, that the plan of a sinking fund, which has already annihilated one-fifth of the national debt, and will, in the course of a few years, extinguish the whole of it, was a good almost as *real* and *substantial* to his country, though not so to the minister himself, as the successful projects and local improvements of his Grace of Bridgewater.

On the practice of irrigation, we have much useful information of a practical nature, and much unnecessary prolixity. The information, however, is conveyed in a style so quaint, pedantic, and affected, as greatly to mar its utility, by being frequently unintelligible. By talking to a farmer of water *permeating*, or *percolating*, we may make him *stare*, but we are not likely to make him *understand* us. What can be more affected than the following paragraphs? "A shelf of slate rock *operates*, under these circumstances, as a stratum of sand or gravel. By examining the breast of a slate-stone quarry, after a heavy fall

fall of rain, the filtration may be *interestingly detected.*" Contrasting this with "*hitting off* the value of land," it will easily be perceived, that *affectation* and *vulgarity* are not so much at variance as is generally supposed. The following passage, again, without being either vulgar or affected, is unintelligible.

"Land, viewed in the light of agriculture, is the foundation on which *it* rests, the materials on which *it* operates, and the visible source of its productions. It may generally be considered as being composed of three distinct parts: the SOIL, the SUBSOIL, and the BASE, or SUBSTRUCTURE, on which they rest."

The art of *draining*, one of the most necessary arts for the agriculturist to understand thoroughly, seems to have attracted a very considerable portion of Mr. Marshall's attention. His directions on this head are tolerably plain and intelligible; and he appears to have derived more information from that extraordinary man, Mr. Elkington, than he is willing to acknowledge.

On the subject of inclosures, the notions of our author are correct enough, except as to tithes, in respect of which, his prejudices always obscure his judgment. The necessity of inclosing the waste lands is not more obvious than the folly, or rather the impracticability, of inclosing too large a portion of them at the same time. This long-desired and necessary improvement must be achieved gradually. On the much-agitated question of *large farms*, too, Mr. Marshall's notions are accurate, and certainly the result of experience, operating, in this instance, on an unbiassed judgment.

"In a public light, it appears to me, that the sizes of farms, on land of a good quality, ought to extend from those of FIVE POUNDS, to those of FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS, rental value*; but that the proportional number, toward each extremity, ought to be small. For to my mind it appears, evidently, that it is from farms of middle sizes, as those of one to three hundred pounds a year, the community receive the greatest proportion of the common necessaries of life. It is chiefly among the cultivators of farms of these sizes that we find the three principal requisites of good husbandry; namely, CAPITAL, SKILL, and INDUSTRY. On farms below these sizes, the first, and frequently the second, is wanting; and on those of higher magnitude, the last is liable to be deficient."

There is much good sense in these observations; nor is there less of that best quality in a writer, in his remarks upon a prevalent notion of the necessity of assigning to every cottager a sufficiency of land for the support of a cow. He proves that such a rule, universally adopted (and if good in itself, the universality of its adoption must and ought

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* It must be remembered, that Mr. Marshall makes this estimate on lands at twenty shillings per acre; so that pounds and acres must here be taken as synonymous terms.

to be the object of its partizans), it would occasion an immense waste of land, without being serviceable to the cottagers themselves.

"The idea has doubtlessly originated in mistaken humanity; it is a weed that has sprung up in the garden of philanthropy, as others have lately done. It is sister to jacobinism, proceeds from the same levelling principle, and, had it come from another quarter, would have been the cause of much alarm—would have been construed as an attempt to introduce *agrarian* regulation.

"It is demonstrably evident, that the welfare of this country, viewed in its PRESENT AGRICULTURAL STATE, and seeing the mass of inhabitants which its agriculture has to support, imperiously requires, that every acre of its circumscribed territory shall be applied to the best advantage; and that there ought to be labourers in agriculture, as in manufacture, trade, and commerce, who have nothing to call off their time, or attention, from the business of their employers; nor any other dependence for the maintenance of themselves and their families, than the work of their own hands, and their families' industry."

Mr. Marshall is of opinion, that the comfort and convenience of these labourers would be much better promoted, without any injury to the public, by allotting to each cottage about the third of an acre for a garden, and by the adoption of means for supplying them with milk at an easy rate. In this we fully concur with him, as we do, and from experience too, in his sentiments respecting those cottagers whose habitations are fixed by the side of waste lands, whether common or forest. He enters into a pecuniary calculation, in order to prove that the difference between the plan of allotting gardens to cottagers, and that of assigning them land for the support of a cow each, is not less than two millions sterling annually; that is to say, such a sum would be lost to the public, by adopting the last plan in preference to the first.

One of the last sections, which treats of "the proper treatment of tenants," contains much matter that is interesting both to landlords and tenants, but particularly to the latter. Mr. Marshall's observations respecting the proper treatment of good tenants are perfectly just.

"A spirited improving tenant should be refused nothing that he can reasonably ask—should have favours voluntarily conferred upon him; not merely as a reward for the services which he, individually, is rendering the estate, but to induce its other tenants to follow his example; and to make known to the whole, that their conduct is observed, and distinctions made between good and bad managers.

"But here, again, we must stop, to view the reverse of this principle of treatment. In every part of the kingdom, we see the superintendants of estates obstinately refusing the most reasonable requests, by which not the tenant only, but the estate, would be materially benefited; stupidly thwarting the good intentions of the best tenants upon it; ignorantly quarrelling with them about the merest trifles; making no distinctions between those who are improving the estate, and those who are running it to ruin; or, perhaps, encouraging the latter, and oppressing the former.

"The consequences need not be traced. Tenants who are able to improve, are also able to impoverish; and, when disgusted by improper treatment, will ransack their lands, and take the first opportunity of moving to an estate under more rational management. Thus every part of an ill-managed estate tends towards ruin; and, in the course of time, none but slovens, and adventurers, who want a temporary residence, are to be found upon it."

All this is very true; the principal object of landlords in general, or of their agents, being to obtain the highest price from, and to impose the hardest conditions on, their tenants. From the dissipation of the age, so many estates have fallen into the hands of wealthy upstarts, that a perfect revolution has taken place in landed property, which has totally escaped the attention of agriculturists, though pregnant with the most important consequences to the community. This, however, is a subject of too much importance to be discussed *incidentally*. Mr. Marshall entertains a very just idea of the consequence of *excessive* rents; but still he seems to us to have notions less accurate of the tenantry of the country. In respect of the practice of letting farms by the year, we entirely agree with him. It is, unquestionably, the greatest of all obstacles to agricultural improvement; for what man, in his senses, would manure land which he might be ordered to quit the ensuing year, before he could have possibly reaped a due proportion of the profits of his improvements? Besides, we object to this practice on another account; inasmuch as it tends to keep tenants in a state of vassalage far more degrading than that of the feudal times, in which the vassal received an adequate return for the obedience which he was obliged to pay to his lord. There is some reason, indeed, for the author's objections to long leases; but, in our opinion, no tenant acts wisely who takes a lease for *less* than twenty-one years. A tenant ought to feel himself *at home* in his farm, and it is the interest of his landlord that he should so feel; but it is impossible that he can take any pleasure in the improvements which he makes, if he cannot look forward to the enjoyment of them for that term. As to the form of lease given by Mr. Marshall, though many of the clauses are highly proper, there are others which ought not to be imposed on any tenant, and which no *good* tenant would ever submit to. Some of the provisions respecting the repair of new-cut hedges, are ridiculously minute, and fraught with endless grounds of litigation and dispute. We should be truly glad to know how a farmer is to keep his quick-hedges in good and proper order, if he be forbidden to cut or remove any *ash or elm shoots*. Nothing is so destructive to a quick-hedge as ash shoots in particular; wherever they appear, the quick becomes *stunted*, and mostly dies. *Pollards*, again, are destructive of hedges; and it is a miserable policy to prevent the tenant from cutting them. He should be allowed all pollards, as well as loppings, in lieu of the *cart-bote*, and *plough-bote*, and other allowances of good old times. In short, the tenant should be made to feel an *interest* in his farm, and should, indeed, be considered as the temporary *proprietor* of it, and not as the mere servant of

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the owner, subject to the perpetual caprices of him, of his agent, or steward. The privilege of cutting down timber should, of course, be reserved to the landlord, but subject to certain restrictions. He should be compelled to cut it down at a particular season of the year, to repair the *gaps* occasioned by the fall of it, and to make good all damage whatever occasioned by its removal. We know that these precautions are not sufficiently attended to, and that the most wanton injury is done to tenants by the neglect of them. But to extend the provisions of a lease so far as to fix the form and shape of a *farm-yard,* is, surely, of all ridiculous notions the most ridiculous; and proves, better than any argument, the folly and the pertinacity of system-mongers, in making every thing bend to their systems.

We have already, on more occasions than one, given our opinion of the *value* of the knowledge of *surveyors,* respecting landed property. *Experto crede Roberto.* Our readers cannot doubt the testimony of our author on this subject.

"Let three or four surveyors, or land valuers (all of them *noted for being great judges of land*), go over a farm separately, and their several valuations will differ very materially, especially if they go over it in different seasons. Instead of ten per cent. (on which the above calculations are made), I have known twenty, thirty, *or even fifty per cent.* and, in one instance (a difficult subject of valuation), *nearly cent. per cent* difference, in the estimates of men *who stand well in their profession!!!*"

On the whole, Mr. Marshall's larger treatise on landed property may be read with advantage, as containing, amongst many things that are either useless or objectionable, much information of great practical utility.—The smaller work is more free from objections, while it contains every thing that the description of men for whose use it is principally designed most want to know. We wish that Mr. Marshall would direct his attention to another branch of rural economy, on which a treatise, at once brief and comprehensive, is much wanting. We mean, the best mode of cultivating farms; the value of different crops; the expence of ploughing, sowing, breeding, &c. &c.; the best manure for different kinds of land; the necessary quantity per acre; the best implements of husbandry; and, in short, all the minutiæ of farming, given in a plain and familiar style. Such a treatise is much wanted, and would, we are sure, if well executed, amply repay the trouble of the writer.

Sir John Froissart's Chronicles of England, France, &c.

(Concluded from page 9.)

SIR JOHN FROISSART says, in a Preface, "that the honourable enterprises, noble adventures, and deeds of arms performed in the wars between England and France, may be properly related,

and held in perpetual remembrance, to the end that brave men, taking example from them, may be encouraged in their well doing, I sit down to record a history deserving great praise."

In the same Preface he adds—"The true reason of my undertaking this book was for my amusement, to which I have ever been inclined, and for which I have frequented the company of many noblemen and gentlemen, as well in France, as in England, and Scotland, and other countries." His compilation, such as it was, "he carried to my Lady Phillippa of Hainault, Queen of England, who most graciously received it from me, to my great profit."

His great guide, and, as it were, the ground-work of his book, was the documents and papers of Mr. John Le Bel, formerly canon at St. Lamberts, Liege.

Throughout the whole of these Chronicles we have a striking delineation of the times, the most prominent feature of which is a union of barbarism, and ferocity of manners, with the most refined sentiments of gallantry, and a blind spirit of religion.

"*Chap. XIII.—Sir Hugh Spencer judged and executed.*

"When the feast was over, Sir Hugh, who was not beloved in those parts, was brought before the Queen and Knights assembled; the charges were read to him—to which he made no reply; the Barons and Knights then passed the following sentence on him: first, that he should be drawn on a hurdle, attended by trumpets and clarions, through all the streets in the city of Hereford, and then conducted to the market-place, where all the people were assembled; at that place he was to be bound upon a high scaffold, in order that he might be more easily seen by the people. First, his private parts were cut off, because he was deemed a heretic, and guilty of unnatural practices, even with the King, whose affections he had alienated from the queen by his wicked suggestions. His private parts were then cast into a lange fire kindled close to him; afterwards, his heart was thrown into the same fire, because it had been false and traitorous, since he had by his treasonable counsels so advised the King, as to bring shame and mischief on the land, and had caused some of the greatest lords to be beheaded, by whom the kingdom ought to have been supported and defended; and had so seduced the King, that he could not, nor would not see the Queen, or his eldest son, who was to be their future sovereign, both of whom had, to preserve their lives, been forced to quit the kingdom. The other parts of Sir Hugh thus disposed of, his head was cut off and sent to London."

Sir Roger Mortimer was put to death nearly in the same manner. Chap. xxii.

The account of the Crusade set on foot by Philip, King of France, against the Infidels, is very entertaining, as well as instructive, as it displays the human mind and character in a singular point of view. The Crusades, in the middle age, were a novelty in the history of mankind. There never had been before any wars about religion. King Philip, after passing through Burgundy, came to Avignon, where he was most honourably received by Pope Benedict, and by all the

the college of Cardinals, who treated him as magnificently as they could. The King of Arragon came also at this time to the court of Rome.

In the turbulent and unsettled times of which Froissart speaks, when dominion was parted among a greater number of chiefs than now, and every thing yielded, without great complication of designs, either political or military, by an appeal to the sword, an individual, who, like our Oliver Cromwell, had been a brewer *, raised himself to the government of all Flanders.

"There was in Ghent a man that had formerly been a brewer of metheglin, called Jacob von Artaveld, who had gained so much popular favour and power over the Flemings, that every thing was done according to his will. He commanded in all Flanders, from one end to the other, with such authority, that no one dared to contradict his orders.

"Whenever he went out into the city of Ghent, he was attended by three or four score armed men on foot, among whom were two or three that were in his secrets: if he met any man whom he hated or suspected, he was instantly killed; for he had ordered those who were in his confidence, to remark whenever he should make a particular sign on meeting any person, and to murder him directly without fail, or waiting further orders, of whatever rank he might be. This happened very frequently; so that many principal men were killed: and he was so dreaded, that no one dared to speak against his actions, or scarce to contradict him, but all were forced to entertain him handsomely.

"When his companions, before-mentioned, had conducted him to his hotel, each went home to his dinner, and immediately after returned to the street before his house, where they remained, making a noise and brawling, until he pleased to come out and go round the town, to pass his time and amuse himself; and thus was he escorted until he chose to go to supper.

"Each of these soldiers had four Flemish groats a day, as wages, and for his expences, which he had paid to him very regularly every week. He had also in every town and castlewick through Flanders, sergeants and soldiers in his pay, to execute his orders, and serve him as spies, to find out if any were inclined to rebel against him, and to give him information.

"The instant he knew of any such being in a town, he was banished or killed without delay, and none were so great as to be exempted, for so early did he take such measures to guard himself.

"At the same time he banished all the most powerful knights and esquires from Flanders, and such citizens from the principal towns, as he thought were in the least favourable to the Earl; seized one half of their rents, giving the other moiety for the dower of their wives and support of their children. Those that were banished, of which the number was very

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* Oliver was the son of a brewer, and had for some time the charge and management of the brewery. There are *brewers* of the present day, who seem to have something of the same spirit in them.

considerable, resided for the most part at St Omer, and were called *les avolez.*

"To speak the truth, there never was in Flanders, or in any other country, count, duke, or prince, who had such perfect command as Jacob von Artaveld. He collected the rents, the duties on wines, and other taxes belonging to the Earl, though they were the Earl's lawful revenue, in whatever part of the county of Flanders he might reside; he raised, also, extraordinary subsidies, which he spent and gave away, without rendering account to any one. When he said he was in want of money, he was immediately believed—and well it was for them who did believe him—for it was perilous to contradict him; and if he wished to borrow money of any of the citizens, there was no one that dared to refuse him."

There was nothing more common in those days, than for the dignitaries of the church to carry arms. At the siege of Cambray, for example, Froissart tells us, "the Bishop of Lincoln was much renowned for his wisdom and valour. This Bishop had, before this, served at the siege of Valenciennes."

"The King of England ordered ten knights-bannerets, and forty knights-bachelors, in company with the Bishop of Lincoln, who was a right valiant man, to cross the sea, and go straight to Valenciennes. When they were arrived at Valenciennes, all were emulous of the state they should hold, and spared no expences; for if the King of England had been there in person, they could not have done more, by which they gained great renown and reputation."

With all this magnificence and gallantry, some whimsies were occasionally intermixed, as eccentric and ludicrous as any thing in Don Quixote.

"There were among them many young knights-bachelors, who had one of their eyes covered with a piece of cloth, so that they could not see with it. It was said they had made a vow to some ladies in their country, that they would never use but one eye until they had personally performed some deeds of arms in France; nor would they make any reply to whatever questions were asked them; so that all marvelled at their strange demeanour.

"After they had been sufficiently feasted and honoured at Valenciennes, the Bishop of Lincoln, and the greater number of them, drew towards the Duke of Brabant, by the advice of the Earl of Hainault."

As another instance of the prowess of the clergy of those days, our readers may accept what follows: Sir Henry of Flanders, created a knight by King Edward, to do honour to his knighthood and to obtain honour, made one of a party of knights, who were conducted by Sir John de Hainault into Hennecourt, a town in Picardy, whither the greater number of the inhabitants of the country had retired, who, confiding in the strength of this fortress, had carried with them all their moveables.

"There was an Abbot at that time in Hennecourt of great courage and understanding,

understanding, who ordered barriers to be made of wood-work around the town, and likewise to be placed across the streets, so that there was not more than half a foot from one post to the other; he then collected armed men, provided stones, quick-lime, and such like instruments of annoyance, to guard them.

"As soon as the Lords above-mentioned came there, the Abbot posted his people between the barriers and the gate, and flung the gate open; the Lords dismounted and approached the barriers, which were very strong, sword in hand, and great strokes were given to those within, who defended themselves very valiantly. Sir Abbot did not spare himself; but, having a good leathern jerkin on, dealt about his blows manfully, and received as good in his turn. Many a gallant action was performed; and those within the barriers flung upon the assailants stones, logs, and pots full of lime, to annoy them.

"It chanced that Sir Henry of Flanders, who was one of the foremost, with his sword attached to his wrist, laid about him at a great rate: he came too near the Abbot, who caught hold of his sword, and drew him to the barriers with so much force, that his arm was dragged through the grating, for he could not quit his sword with honour. The Abbot continued pulling, and, had the grating been wide enough, he would have had him through, for his shoulder had passed, and he kept his hold, to the knight's great discomfort. On the other side, his brother knights were endeavouring to draw him out of his hands; and this lasted so long, that Sir Henry was sorely hurt; he was, however, at last rescued—but his sword remained with the Abbot. And at the time I was writing this book, as I passed through that town, the monks showed me this sword, which was kept there, much ornamented. It was there that I learnt all the truth of this assault."

It seems, that in the fourteenth century, a marquis was in dignity below an earl.

"The Marquis of Juliers was, by the Emperor, created an Earl; and the Duke of Gueldres, who was but an Earl, was raised to the dignity of a Duke."

The following passage shews the ignorance and concomitant credulity of the age. When the French and English armies lay before each other at Vironfosse, and debates were held in the council of the King of France, whether to give battle to the English or no, letters were brought to the King from Robert, King of Sicily, addressed to him and his Council.

"This King Robert was, as they said, a very great astrologer, and full of deep science: he had often cast the nativities of the Kings of France and England, and had found, by his astrology and the influence of the stars, that, if the King of France fought with the King of England in person, he would surely be defeated; in consequence of which, he, as a wise King, and much fearing the danger and peril of his cousin, the King of France, had sent long before letters, most earnestly to request King Philip and his council never to give battle to the English when King Edward should be there in person.

"These doubts, and this letter from the King of Sicily, made many of

the Lords of France sore disheartened, of which the King was informed, who, notwithstanding, was very eager for the combat; but he was so strongly dissuaded from it, that the day passed quietly, and each man returned to his quarters."

Froissart gives a curious account of the circumstances or occasion on which King Edward III. assumed the arms and title of the King of France. Edward was advised by his allies of the Empire, to solicit the Flemings to give him their aid and assistance in the war against the French King, to follow King Edward wherever he should lead them, and in return, he would assist them in the recovery of Lisle, Douay, and Bethune.

"The Flemings heard this proposal with pleasure; but they requested of the King, that they might consider of it among themselves, and in a short time would give their answer.

"The King consented, and soon after they made this reply:

"Beloved Sire, you formerly made us a similar request; and we are willing to do every thing in reason for you, without prejudice to our honour and faith—but we are pledged by promise on oath, under a penalty of two millions of florins, to the Apostolical Chamber, not to act offensively against the King of France in any way, whoever he may be, without forfeiting this sum, and incurring the sentence of excommunication: but if you will do what we will tell you, you will find a remedy; which is, that you take the arms of France, quarter them with those of England, and call yourself King of France. We will acknowledge your title as good, and we will demand of you quittance for the above sum, which you will grant us as King of France: thus we shall be absolved, and at liberty to go with you wherever you please."

This proposal, after some hesitation, was accepted, sworn to, and sealed.

The following is what may be called a very good story, and the way in which it is told, is a very good specimen of the characteristic style and manner of Froissart. The people of Tournay having made an excursion into Flanders, and brought into their town more than ten thousand sheep, and of swine, beeves, and kine, as many more, the Flemings were sore vexed at this; and Jacob von Artaveld, who was at that time at Ghent, swore, that this expedition should be revenged on Tournay and its neighbourhood.

"He gave immediate orders for the different towns in Flanders to collect forces, and to send them to him, at a fixed day, before Tournay; he also wrote to the Earls of Salisbury and Suffolk, who were at Ypres, to beg that they would draw towards that quarter, to meet him. He then set out from Ghent, accompanied by great numbers, and came to a place called the Geertsberg, between Oudenarde and Tournay, where he halted, to wait for the two Earls, and for those of the Franc and Bruges.

"When the two Earls received the letters, they would not, for their honour's sake, make any delay, but sent to inform Von Artaveld, that they would be with him at the appointed time and place.

"They

"They soon set out from Ypres, with about fifty lances and forty cross-bowmen, and took the road where he was waiting for them. They continued their route; but as they were forced to pass near the outskirts of Lisle, it was soon known in that town; accordingly, 1500 horse and foot were secretly armed, and sent out in three divisions to lie in wait, so that these lords might not escape from them.

"The Earls and their company followed the guidance of Sir Vauflart de la Croix, who had long made war upon the people of Lisle, and still continued so to do whenever he had an opportunity:—it was for this purpose that he was come to Ypres. He thought himself quite certain of conducting the Earls in safety, as he was well acquainted with all the roads in those parts; and he would have succeeded now, if those of Lisle had not thrown up a great trench near their town, which was not there before.

"When Sir Vauflart came to this trench, and saw that their road was cut off, he was quite astonished, and said to the Earls, 'My Lords, we cannot go further this way without putting ourselves in the power of those of Lisle; on which account my advice is, that we turn about and seek another road.' But the Lords replied, 'Nay, Sir Vauflart, God forbid that we should go out of our way for those of Lisle! Ride on, therefore, for we have promised Jacob von Artaveld, that we would be with him some time this day.'

"The English rode on without care. Sir Vauflart said to them, 'It is true, my Lords, that you have taken me for your guide in this expedition, and I have remained with you all this winter at Ypres, and have many thanks to give you and all your attendants; but if it should happen, that those of Lisle make a sally upon us, do not fancy that I shall wait for them, for I shall save myself as fast as I can. If by any accident I should be taken, my head would pay for it, which is much dearer to me than your company.'

"The Lords laughed heartily, and told him, they would excuse him if he should do so. And as he imagined, so it fell out; for, by not taking more precaution, they were surprised by one of the parties from Lisle, who cried out, 'Stop! stop! you cannot pass here without our leave;' and immediately the lance-men and cross-bow men fell on the English.

"As soon as Sir Vauflart saw what was going on, he took care not to advance farther; but turning about as quickly as possible, galloped out of danger.

"The two Earls fell into the hands of their enemies, and were taken as if in a net."

In the fourteenth century, we have not only many instances of the courage of priests, but also of ladies, of which we have an example in the "Countess of Montfort, who possessed the courage of a man, and the heart of a lion, &c."

Priests, in those times, often volunteered their services as mediators for peace; an employment more suitable to their official character, at least, than that of arms. Nor does it seem to have been always from motives of interested policy that the Popes interfered, for preventing the effusion of blood among the princes, then, we had almost said, happily, united in one church. For example: "Whilst the King of France was devising means to fight with the English (near Calais), two Cardinals

Cardinals from Pope Clement arrived, as ambassadors, in his camp. Immediately on their arrival, they visited each army, and exerted themselves so much, that they procured a sort of truce."

The readers of Grecian authors can scarcely fail to recollect here the

Χαίρετε κήρυκες Διὸς ἄγγελοι ἠδὲ καὶ ἀνδρῶν

of Homer.—

"Hail heralds! ambassadors of heaven and earth, of God and of men."

As the issue of battles, in the fourteenth century, depended more than it does now on individual valour and prowess, and as it was a spirit of chivalry, or the love of honour and glory alone, that carried so many of the men at arms into the field, Froissart mentions, on all occasions, great numbers of knights on both sides, as is done by Homer and Virgil. This must be very interesting to many great families. Few of the old nobility and gentry of this country, but will probably find some one among these to whom he may be able to trace an affinity, if not his descent.

Froissart has been accused, as Herodotus is, of credulity. But Froissart, as Herodotus also was, is careful to distinguish what he saw, or otherwise knew on satisfactory evidence, from vague reports. Hence what he states is frequently introduced by "I have heard it related," "I have heard say," and such like.

In his military details, as well as in his accounts of the conversations with princes, he will probably appear to most readers, after so great a lapse of time, rather too minute. But as to this last, it is intimately connected with his manner, which is altogether dramatic. He represents things as passing before you. His style is quite lively and picturesque: it makes an impression on the imagination, and dwells in the memory.

As to the translation, Mr. Johnes says, in an advertisement, "with regard to the style, it has been my aim to suit it as much as possible to that of my venerable original, and to render it an exact translation without becoming servilely literal." In this aim, Mr. Johnes has not been unsuccessful, as our readers will perceive from the specimens here produced. He has, however, sometimes fallen into grammatical inaccurracies, as, "I recommend you to set out for the Empire, &c." [vol. i. p. 19], meaning, "I recommend to you, &c." He mistakes the meaning of the word *array*, which he uses for *order of battle*. Array means dress and armour. "The King of England drew out, one day, his army in battle array, on a hill near Nantes." [vol. ii. p. 33]. This mistake runs throughout the whole book.

Sir John Bourchier, Lord Berners, in his translation of Froissart, undertaken by order of King Henry VIII. and printed towards the end of his reign, whether from national prejudice and animosity, in that age very strong, or a desire to recommend himself to his patron, has made some interpolations, not in the original. For example, Froissart tells us that "Robert Bruce, King of Scotland, re-conquered

quered all Scotland; took, besides, the good town of Berwic."—Lord Berners' translation says, that "the Scots won again the town of Berwic by treason." Mr. Johnes is altogether superior to such illiberal artifices.

The Morlands. Tales illustrative of the Simple and Surprising. By R. C. Dallas, Esq. 4 vols. 12mo. Pp. 1506. Longman and Co. 1805.

THE Morlands contain two tales. They are in some respects connected, as the same man is the hero of both; yet they are perfectly distinct Tales: both entertaining and equally interesting: the one illustrative of the simple and moral—the other of the surprizing. A quotation from the Preface will best explain the author's meaning. This is written in a conversation between the author and his friend.

"*Friend.*—A thought strikes me: will you allow me to put it into execution?

"*Author.*—What is it?

"*Friend.*—To start with you from the first chapter: simple as it is, it may be turned into a fashionable romance—do you go on arranging your every day characters, and allow me to engraft a romance of surprizing adventures on your stock of natural and simple life.

"*Author.*—With all my heart. As soon as you have done we will compare our manuscripts. But by *surprizing* do you mean to give loose to impossible or improbable flights?

"*Friend.*—No: I do not mean to write a Fairy Tale, or an Arabian Nights Entertainment. Perhaps, however, I shall attempt to astonish. But I must not betray myself."

The tale commences with the story of a young man, brought up by a lady, no ways related to him, who sends him to school, and afterwards to Oxford, intending to educate him for the church. His patroness dies in a fit, and leaves Morland destitute. A benevolent clergyman advises him to go to service, as the best way of preserving his independence; this, though grating to his feelings, he at last determines on; and he is sent, by his friend, to Holcomb, in Devonshire, to the vicar of that place, with an account of his story, and desiring a recommendation of Morland into some family; he goes in the stage coach, and thus describes a May morning:

"In spite of the lulling motion of the carriage, and the example of my companions, my senses, excited by the activity of my imagination, remained uninfluenced by the power of sleep; and the beautiful dawn of a May morning drew my attention from myself to one of the sublimest pictures of nature.

"The

"The thick curtain with which her painting was enveloped, yielded to the approaching rays of the sun, gradually became transparent, and at length totally disappeared. I sat backwards in the coach, and next to a window, whence I looked to the points of the east and south, as the road varied in its direction. The mild tints cast by the twilight over an undulating landscape, assuming form and verdure as the light pencilled the unshapen masses of darkness, excited in my mind pleasing and tranquil sensations. The sides of the hills were spotted with mansions which, though too distant to be examined by the eye, spoke to the imagination all the effects of the beauty and convenience attached to architecture.—Here and there a fleecy fog, more or less rarified, hanging over the moister meadows, added a pleasing object to the scene. It was a scene of calm repose. Animal life was suspended in sleep; all was motionless, but the vehicle in which I was carried along the side of a hill, favourable to the prospect I surveyed; all was quiet but the feet of our horses, which clattered on the firm road the constant echoes of an even trot. For some time I continued to contemplate the country with placid satisfaction; the perturbation of the preceding day subsided into a calm acquiescence in the will of Providence: and my resolution to banish pride, and cherish philosophy, strengthened with my solitary reflections."

Afterwards follows a very humorous description of his fellow-travellers. Morland finds the Vicar of Holcomb kind, and by him he is recommended to different families, the description of which shews the author to be well acquainted with elegant, as well as simple life.—Morland is at length introduced to the family of Sir Nicholas Broke, upon which hangs the catastrophe of the first tale of the Morlands.

"I did not fail to make my appearance next morning at Broke Hall, a magnificent seat, part of which was a very ancient structure called the *castle*, and part an elegant modern building lately added to it, in compliance with the taste of Lady Broke, from which the whole had received the appellation of Hall: the manor was entitled Brokeland.

"From Holcomb the road gradually became steeper. Entering at the porter's lodge, I had to walk about half a mile before I reached the house, into which, after waiting five minutes from the time I rang at the door, I was admitted by a very tall man in a handsome livery. On hearing my business he stared at me from head to foot, and asked me if I had lately come out of a family in which there had been a death, observing, that the cloth of which my coat was made, was superfine. I told him the truth, and begged to know if I could see Lady Broke: on which he said—'Will you go into the kitchen, or wait here?' I preferred the latter, and he left me.

"The hall in which I stood was spacious and lofty, and contained a broad winding staircase that terminated on the first floor. The pannels of the walls were decorated with painting in fresco, and from the centre hung a grand gilt lanthern of crown glass, suspended by a brass chain.—I remained full half an hour at liberty to walk from side to side; a dead silence reigned; neither man, woman, nor child, dog, nor cat, disturbed the stillness of the scene, and I began to think myself forgotten, when

when the light echo of a distant foot announced the approach of a living creature.

" It drew nearer and nearer; but still the tread was gentle. It proceeded from a long passage to the left, beyond a colonade that terminated the hall, which I had not explored, my attention having been fixed on the pictures. At last a delicate little female figure, with a gypsey hat and short petticoats, looking like a sylph, appeared among the columns, and calling to me, said, 'Sir! this way. I come to shew you to my lady.' She waited till I was near her, gazing at me all the time with her head on one side, then said with a smile: 'You have not been waiting long, I hope.' I thanked her, and accompanied her back through the passage, which after a considerable way turned an angle, and continued about half as far as the former part, when it brought us into a lively room, fitted up with complicated taste. There were delicate glass bookcases of satin wood, filled with superbly bound books; stages of flowing exotics, with the colours duly mingled and adjusted to produce the most grateful effect upon the eye; canary birds, Virginia nightingales, and Indian avadavats in silver wired cages, hung on large myrtles placed on gilt tripods; gold and silver fish in immense glass globes, on similar stands, alternate with the cages; Indian bows and arrows, and a table for trou-madame; vine leaves and tendrils curled around the windows, which were also provided with Venetian blinds to regulate the degree of light, according to the inclination of the moment. A large glass door to the left discovered an extensive aviary, where a great variety of birds, foreign and native, were collected within the same range of wire.

" 'That's my lady,' said the slender-ancled damsel; pointing to a lady among the birds, whose person was the reverse of her own. 'She is watching a sitting bullfinch, for she bred them all herself, from first to last. I'll let her know you are here.'

" My conductress opening the glass door of the aviary, I drew back out of sight. She soon returned and beckoned me; I followed her, and passing through a city of nests, inhabited by beings from every quarter of the globe, more heterogeneous than are to be found in London, Paris, or Constantinople, we ascended two marble steps into a room, which on every side, from top to bottom, was completely covered with an infinite variety of china, arranged on shelves in different services. The farther end of the room seemed to be without a door; the vacant space was lofty, and admitted the view of a rock, so near as to cast a considerable shade on the room, while from its summit a gentle cataract, whitening some abrupt points in its way down, poured over with a constant murmur, and, dashing upon some stones at the bottom, ran off into a glade. Near the open space, left vacant by a sliding door, sat Lady Broke at a table, looking at some papers, which, after bidding me advance, she continued to examine, as if on purpose to allow me time to view her cascade.

" Her ladyship was in the maturity of beauty. She had been married some four-and-twenty years. Her skin was smooth, and her features (were) delicate, but time had gradually augmented the covering of her bones, and the rotundity of some parts of her person had shot from the curve of the beautiful, into the projections of the sublime. It had been necessary in the course of the last seven years to widen the elbows of her arm chairs, an improvement, which, to prevent invidious reflections, had been

been several times generalized in the change of those pieces of necessary furniture, till refusing more than one arm at once to a single person, and usurping the office of sociables, all were again narrowed, except her Ladyship's, which very evidently asserted their superior dignity among their fellows.

" After a silence of a few minutes she looked complacently at me, and said: 'I understand, Sir, you are the person of whom Mr. Whitaker speaks so favourably?' My sensations at this moment were truly painful, for in spite of her Ladyship's complacent air, I felt myself in a situation, at which in spite of all my philosophical resolutions, my soul revolted whenever it was for a moment off its guard. I only bowed, but I fancy I had forgotten the Vicar's caution, and again suffered my bow to betray me, for Lady Broke smiling, asked me if I had ever worn a livery. My blood flew into my face; I stammered, and disdaining a falsehood, owned I never had.

" 'Well,' said her Ladyship, 'there's no harm in that. I see you are very young, and of course the more pliant. If your temper is good I have no doubt, from your appearance, I shall be able to make something of you. 'Can you read?' I was not a little surprised at this question, which of course I answered in the affirmative. 'And can you get by heart?' This question appeared to me still more divergent than the other. I looked at the Lady and was silent. 'That would be expecting too much,' continued she. 'Yet on trial you might not find it hard to learn.' Puzzled to conceive what she aimed at, I assured her I found it by no means difficult, and that my memory was abundantly stored with the productions of the poets. 'Oho!' said she, 'I find Mr. Whitaker's commendations are not at all exaggerated. Can you repeat the Water Lark?' What all this had to do with a man who came to be hired as a servant, was beyond my range of comprehension; yielding however, to her Ladyship's fancy, I answered I did not know it. 'Not know *The Water Lark!*' exclaimed she, 'though, now I think of it, I believe it is not yet published—But repeat me something, that I may form an estimate of your talents, for I tell you fairly, I have a point in view, and I shall be glad to find you capable of what I wish.'

" I now began to think that my promotion depended upon my elocution in recitation, and in obedience to her Ladyship's command I repeated Collins's Ode on the Passions. When I finished it she said it was very pretty, but that she believed it was one of Mr. Dalby's; and she was sure it was so like, at all events, that if it was not his it must have been taken from his. She then told me that I repeated very prettily, and much better than she expected; but that I was not sufficiently animated.

" 'However,' said she, 'allowance must be made for the first time. I dare say you have been brought up on the foundation of one of the public schools. Can you dance?' At this question I blushed, but I knew not why, for I had been considered as the best dancer at Reading. I bowed and said I had been taught. 'I see you will do;' said her Ladyship, 'and I desire you will leave word where you may be found at a minute's warning. The man whom I am going to discharge is a faithful honest creature and a very good servant, but not fit for my establishment; he can't repeat, and my nymphs don't like him. I shall let him go with credit, and give him the best of characters; he has yet another month to stay, but I engage you from

from this day. Go with Flora, who will give you some refreshment; inform her where you live, and she will talk to you of your salary and all particulars.' 'Flora take care of this young man.' She then gently inclined her head to my bow, and the airy sylph who had conducted me to her Ladyship, making a slight and graceful curtsey, led the way."

Morland is received into this family, in which there is an end of his adventures, though he goes through many severe trials extremely interesting. The fourth volume begins with the Author's Friend's Tale; the beginning of which commences another conversation between them.

"*Friend.*—(Producing his manuscript.) Here it is. Your piece will undergo all the severity of criticism, while mine will be considered as an amusing bagatelle, and be spared.

"*Author.*—Nothing more likely: begin.

"*Friend.*—You remember that your first chapter was the starting point for us both. We suppose our Morlands the same person at the time he leaves Devonshire, only I have chosen to take the story into my own hand, that is to say, to use the third person instead of the first: in every other respect I copied your beginning exactly. I find we were both of opinion he should be sent into a Baronet's family: there, however, all similarity ceases. I need not read the first chapter to you, I shall begin with the second."

Of this last Volume, which, as we said before, forms a separate story, our limits will only permit us to make an Extract of the character of the second Baronet and his Lady, into whose family Morland is hired as a servant, at its commencement. This story is carried on with much interest and address, and is really very surprising, and will certainly reward the reader for the time spent in its perusal.

"Sir Robert Wallingford of Cray-hill, was one of the richest baronets in England, about five-and-forty years old, and equally free from vice and virtue. He gave his money so willingly, that it was easy to see he would have been a generous man, if he had not been born a rich one; but having been surrounded in his youth by flatterers and sharpers, his knowledge of mankind being gained only from them, he was convinced that men did not deserve beneficence on principle, and he might therefore be said rather to part with his money than to bestow it. He had too little resource in himself, and was too dependent upon others to be a misanthropist; and he mixed in society without enjoying it. With the gentlemen in his neighbourhood he exchanged dinners, but he never pushed the bottle, and he bore the fatigues of hunting because they did. At races no one seemed more delighted, or more eager; he laid large bets, but always covered them by hedging. When in London he frequented the fashionable Coffee-houses in the day-time, but without eating and drinking: at night he was seen wherever there was gaming, and routs, seemingly very much interested in every thing, yet always without being really so. In public places he mixed with the people to make himself popular, and ogled all the pretty girls he met at Ranelagh or Vauxhall, in order to be thought a libertine. He appeared at court to be taken for a

man

man of quality, and pushed himself in among the nobility, courting their familiarity, in hopes of being looked upon, in time, as one of them: but, he was the only person who forgot the date of his creation. In the House of Commons he always voted with the ministry, of whomsoever composed. Such was Sir Robert's public character. In private he was of easy manners, and allowing for some fits of passion, good to his family. Governed by the pride of property, he valued every thing that belonged to him at double its worth. A horse bought for thirty guineas was estimated at sixty, after it had been a week in his stable. This pride extended to his estates, his family, his servants. Lady Wallingford alone, of all that belonged to him, received no colouring from it. Of her he always spoke impartially, and he lived with her on terms of cold civility.

"Her Ladyship, younger by some years than her husband, had become equally self-important. When young she was carried to Paris, where she was tired to death; every thing appeared to her insipid, and detestable: but, on her return, she wearied all her acquaintance in town and country with the delightful things she had seen in France. In her youth her person had been good; she still supported her pretensions to beauty, piqued herself on wit, and strove to attract attention by every means in her power; in which she succeeded in some degree by the unaccountable whim of making every thing about her in London appear like the country, and by displaying in the country the forms of the town. She was of course a mighty housewife in London, was inexhaustible on rural subjects, and perpetually boasting of the delights of a country life. On the contrary, at Cray-hill, her whole conversation was of court, and town anecdotes, the theatres, fashionable people, and favourite novels. She treated the country gentlemen as ideots and brutes, and received their wives and daughters with overstrained politeness, mixed with a studied and insulting inattention. In other respects, Lady Wallingford was as well to live with as Sir Robert."

Morland is conducted to the general end of novels, marriage, through a variety of well contrived events.

In this tale the author has kept his word, of weaving a story where the marvellous is introduced, and great interest maintained throughout the whole. It may be pronounced a really pleasant and romantic story, and is calculated to shew the great versatility of the author's genius.

Yet, we cannot dismiss these volumes without observing that, it is very bad economy to remind us in the outset that his PIECE, as he calls it, or *pieces*, are mere fictions. He talks again of his fictitious piece, at the beginning of volume iv. where he tells us that this was the same Morland, of which in the three preceding volumes he tells quite another story. This is against all the laws, or rather the process or conduct, of poetry, which aims, by hurrying us into the contemplation of affecting scenes, to raise such a cloud of emotion and passion as shall excite a temporary belief of their real existence. The author, we mean, in his feigned character of the Morlands, talks a great deal too much of himself as of his pieces—of his own beauty, accomplishments, virtues, and feelings—his feelings in all circumstances.

Gil

Gil Blas speaks of himself, as every one must do, who is the hero of his own tale. But he is, for the most part, carried altogether out of himself to other characters that interest him. He describes his selfish and weak propensities and habits, as well as his virtues, of which indeed he makes no great boast; in short, he is not such an overweening egotist as any one of the two Morlands; there was something *bizarre*, and wrong, he added, in writing two different and inconsistent stories about the same men, and announcing this absurdity to the reader. There was no necessity for this. It would have been sufficient to give the second Morland another name. Yet, though we are too often reminded by our poet, for a novelist is a kind of poet, that all he tells us is mere fiction, such is the power of the imagination, that it quickly recovers from those rude and ill-judged shocks, and we peruse both the Morlands on the whole with interest and amusement.

England's Ægis: or the Military Energies of the Constitution. By John Cartwright, Esq. the Third Edition. 2 vols. 8vo. Pp. 323, with a Map of Great Britain, parted into Military Districts or Divisions. 9s. Johnson. 1806.

IT is noticed in the title page, that the first edition of this work made one part of an Appeal, Civil and Military, on the Subject of the English Constitution. The general design of the work is also hinted in the title page, in a quotation from the Bible by way of a motto. "There were in Israel eight hundred thousand valiant men that drew the sword; and the men of Judah were five hundred thousand."—*Samuel.*

Every reader of English history knows that a regular militia, or military force, was first established in England, for the defence of the kingdom by the great King Alfred: who ordained that all his people should be armed and registered; assigned them a regular rotation of duty; and to assemble at stated places of rendezvous on occasions of any alarm. And King Henry II. having for good reasons demolished all the fortresses in his kingdom, fixed an assize of arms, by which all his subjects were obliged to put themselves in a situation for defending themselves and the realm. This universal military force was in the course of events, exchanged for the feudal system, a train of subordination of vassalage from the King to the meanest gentleman, and military services in return for landed possessions. But this system was never able to fix the state in a proper warlike posture, or give it the full exertion of its power for defence, and still less for offence against a public enemy. And a standing army was at last established in this, as in all the states and kingdoms of Europe. It is the object of the publication before us, to bring back things to the first principles of our English Constitution under Alfred and his successors, of the Anglo

Saxon line, interrupted by the Norman Conqueror, restored by Henry II. but again subverted.

The first volume is dedicated to Mr. Fox, who, the author says, "has the most comprehensive knowledge, and holds the purest principles of the English Constitution." After an epistolary address to the volunteers, we have a preface, in which the design of this work is more fully unfolded. From this preface the following is an extract.

"Much has been said on *offensive* operations being the best *defensive* system; and there is, indeed, mixed with the danger of the experiment, so much military wisdom in the *principle*, that we ought to be guarded against the misapplication of it in practice. The two principal arguments in favour of invading the enemy, who threatens you with invasion, are these: first, that you are thereby to make a diversion of his forces, and find him ample employment at home; and secondly, that it is in the nature of attack to raise the spirits of your own troops and nation, and has a tendency to depress those of the enemy. But when you set about invading the invader, you ought to be certain that he is *somewhere vulnerable* in a degree to give scope to your operations; and you ought to be able to act upon such a scale as to oblige him to employ a very material part of his force in opposing you, or hazard some considerable part of his dominions. And there are other very material considerations to be attended to. Now that all continental alliance is at an end, all ideas of invading the invader must also be at an end.

"With regard to the effects to be respectively produced on the spirits of the opposite parties, by elevating those of *England* and depressing those of *France*, if those very effects can be *better* produced by a *defensive* system, carrying *infallibility* on its forehead, then, in that particular case, it is, for many very powerful reasons, to be preferred. You cannot make a better diversion of the enemy's force than by effectually deterring it from attempting to execute its purpose. And how can you more effectually elevate the spirits of your people, than by placing them in a condition to laugh at the impotence of their enemy?

"Restore but the military energies of the English Constitution, and then, from that instant, without any figure of speech, you make successful invasion an impossibility; and the enemy, unable to annoy you either abroad or at home, will probably be brought to reasonable terms of peace; for he will scarcely continue a commercial war, when a military war can no longer avail him. But should he still persevere, then will be your time to become yourselves the invaders. Having laid the solid foundations of your own security, your whole regular force might be employed to strike some stroke that should still more than at present deprive him of "ships, colonies, and commerce," and extort from him a peace glorious to our country."

Were any thing farther necessary, in order to convey to our readers a just idea of the design of the Ægis, we might extract Mr. Cartwright's quotation, from Sir William Jones's "Inquiry into the Legal Means of suppressing Riots, with a Constitutional Plan of future Defence." Sir William, Mr. C. thinks, has clearly demonstrated "that the common and statute laws of the realm, in force at this day, give the civil

state,

state, in every country, a power, which, if it were perfectly understood, and continually prepared, would effectually quell any riot or insurrection, without assistance from the military, &c. &c." Were the law and constitution to operate according to the doctrine of Sir William Jones, we should have an army for defence of full 1,200,000 completely armed.

The second volume is dedicated to Mr. Windham:

"I have much satisfaction in dedicating this volume (of the work) to a minister, from whose manly mind the nation may justly expect that he will revive that grand military system, first organized by the heroic Alfred, and afterwards cherished by our conquering Edwards and Henries, in which the martial spirit of an English people and the military energies of an English Constitution shall constitute an Ægis of Defence, on sight of which the spear of invasion shall assuredly fall from the hand of France's ambitious lord, whose hostile thoughts shall not till then be turned to peace and amity.

"On the first introduction of a different military system by the Normans, this Ægis of England's Defence—the power of the collective counties,—seemed for a while to be lost; but being an essential part of the constitution, it soon again appeared, and the best of the Norman line, as well as some of the Tudors, watched over it with considerable care. And although under the Stuarts it was wholly neglected, yet it never ceased for one moment to have a real existence; while the unnatural system of the feudal polity, pregnant with turbulence and civil war, lived but for a period, and then perished for ever."

Although our author retains the true spirit and principle of Alfred's military system, yet he has endeavoured to accommodate it, in a somewhat more complete form, to our future defence.

It is not a little surprising, that Mr. Cartwright, in his chapter containing the opinions of statesmen, historians and philosophers, on standing armies, takes not any notice of the political works of Mr. Fletcher of Saltoun, and particularly his "Discourse of Government with relation to Militias," so very much to his purpose.

The doctrine contained, and the plan proposed in the Ægis, has our hearty approbation; and, what is of more consequence, it seems to have that of Mr. Windham and His Majesty's other members. It is explored, and recommended by Mr. Cartwright, with great candour, sense, and ability.

An Inquiry into the State of the Nation, at the Commencement of the present Administration. Fourth Edition, with Additions. 8vo. Pp. 236. 5s. Longman and Co. 1806.

THIS pamphlet may be considered as a kind of manifesto of *one* of the parties of which the present administration is formed. It has,

we have reason to believe, been written under the immediate direction of Lord Holland; we do not mean to say, that it is actually the composition of his Lordship; for, though the principles of it be conformable with his; though most of the arguments are feeble and weak; still it displays marks of much greater ability than his Lordship possesses. Indeed, with a single exception, we know no public character whose talents have been more over-rated than those of Lord Holland; as they who know him best will readily acknowledge.

Had Buonaparte hired an advocate for the express purpose of degrading this country in the eyes of all others; for rendering us ultimately an object of indignation, and an object of contempt to Europe; for raising the courage of our enemies, and for exciting a national despondency at home; such an advocate, however zealous, and however able, could not possibly have pleaded his cause with greater earnestness than the author of this pamphlet has done. Never was so black a picture drawn for any *good* purpose; never were facts more miserably perverted; and never were conclusions more flagrantly erroneously drawn. The author seems to lament extremely, that a Parliamentary Inquiry was not instituted into the state of the nation, before the present ministers came into office; and if the omission be really a subject for lamentation, why did not Lord Holland move for such an inquiry? and why did not the present ministers promote it? It is notorious, that the late administration wished for it; that they frequently pressed it; nay, that they even *dared* their opponents, after their accession to power, to enter into it. It was much more convenient, however, to make this inquiry partially, through the medium of the press, where the author would have the field to himself, and would probably be left to enjoy his imaginary triumph without let or molestation. God forbid, that the freedom of the British Press should be infringed; that Britons should be deprived of the privilege of amply discussing the public characters, and conduct of public men, however grating to the feelings of such men the discussion may prove. Let this right, say we, to which we are indebted for many of the greatest blessings which, as British subjects, we enjoy, be preserved and exercised in its fullest extent. But it is one thing to condemn the conduct of ministers, and to uphold one party against its adversaries; and another to plead the cause of our enemies against ourselves. In France, and in every other nation of the Continent, whatever difference of opinion may have obtained on public questions, no man has ever been known to feel the desire to plead the cause of his country's enemies; if his country had weak points, if she had really been defective in her system of policy, domestic or foreign, a Frenchman would labour to conceal those defects; never would he have exposed them to the eye of a foreigner; much less would he have pleaded the cause of her enemies against herself, in time of war. We allude not to times when the press, the tongue, and the mind are alike shackled by the manacles of a ferocious tyranny; but to the better periods of the monarchy, when true honour and genuine patriotism went hand-in-hand.

When

When the ambition of the Fourteenth Lewis had reduced his country to the most deplorable state of distress, every head and every heart combined to afford the means of extricating him from his difficulties; and not one individual was found, so lost to every sense of honour and of shame, as to endeavour to excite despondency in the minds of his countrymen; but all, on the contrary, united in exhorting them to meet like men, the danger which threatened them.

The writer of this pamphlet has probably amused himself with the perusal of Voltaire's *Optimist*, and has thence resolved to treat seriously, what that impious wit had treated ludicrously, and to prove that, (as far as his own country is concerned, at least) every thing is for the worst, in this worst of all possible worlds! The whole system of our foreign politics for the last twenty years is involved in one indiscriminate censure; hence a considerable part of the new ministry, whom he praises as "the distinguished statesmen who are now happily placed at the head of the government," is included in his attacks; his particular censures thus falsifying his general praise; or his general praise thus falsifying his particular censures. Our readers are not to learn, that, during a considerable portion of the war before last, Lord Grenville, the present premier, was Secretary of State for the Foreign Department, and a nobleman better qualified for that office is not to be found in Europe. The policy then pursued in respect of foreign powers, whatever complexion the jaundiced eye of this partisan may have given to it, was such as secured the approbation and respect of every distinguished Statesman in Europe. It was supported by Mr. Windham, Earl Spencer, Lord Sidmouth, Lord Ellenborough, all members of the present Cabinet, who are now to be told, by the advocate of their associates in power, that they have brought the country to the very brink of ruin. Nay, if this writer be worthy of belief, we are reduced to such a wretched state of degradation, that we have not the smallest chance of success in the present contest, and the only means of securing the continuance of our independence with reduced power, and cramped resources, is to bow our necks to the Corsican's yoke, and to submit to any terms of peace which he may be pleased, in his tender mercy, to bestow on us. We defy the most acute and subtle mind to discover, in this inquiry, any other object or tendency; the sum and substance of all the inquirer's arguments amount to neither more nor less, than the necessity of an unconditional surrender of our country to the will of our enemy. If his *intention* were different, which it is not our province to decide, he is the most weak, and inconsistent writer that ever took up a pen; but we cannot with honesty, compliment his motives at the expence of his understanding. The composition, though occasionally deformed by grammatical inaccuracies, is not of the common class. It is evidently a work of study and of labour, executed with the skill, and with the spirit, of a jesuit. If it were written with the privity and assent of Lord Holland's uncle, we should incline to regard it as intended to sound the minds of the people, and either to pave the way for a disgraceful peace, or to

enhance the merit of making a good one. But it would be unjust to admit this supposition, since it forms, in some respects, a perfect contrast with certain recent speeches of that minister in parliament, in which he expressed his full determination to uphold the honour, and to preserve the interests of the country, on all occasions, and in every respect.

For *obvious* reasons, the inquirer dwells less on the conduct of the British Government, during the war which terminated with the peace of Amiens, than on its policy during the present war. The late confederacy he condemns, because it had no precise and limited object. But here he *wilfully* confounds (for we suspect him of any thing rather than *stupidity*), the object with the means. The *object* was clearly defined, but the *means* by which that object was to be accomplished were not *detailed* in the treaty, and hence, forsooth, the objects of the confederacy are all to be condemned as vague and indefinite! The military force necessary for the attainment of the end was, indeed, specified with precision, but neither the manner in which it was to be employed, nor yet the provisions for securing the independence of the states meant to be emancipated from the French yoke, were laid down in the treaty, and *therefore* its *object* was vague and *indefinite!* A man of *common* sense would have supposed that it sufficed to provide the means of emancipation, in the first instance, and that it would be time enough to provide for their present government and future security, after that emancipation should have been effected. But this does not satisfy our sagacious inquirer, who would have loaded the treaty with a vast quantity of such matter, as never, we believe, entered into any treaty of the kind before; and the arrangement of which must of necessity have greatly retarded, and, in all probability, have ultimately defeated, the main object of the treaty itself. But neither the *terms* of the treaty, nor the *time* at which it was concluded, pleases this discontented writer; who finds every thing wrong.

Our ministers are *accused* of having taken "advantage of the very first coolness that appeared between France and Russia—chiefly on account of the Duc d'Enghien's *death*."—(He would not, for the world, characterize that atrocious deed by its only appropriate term—MURDER)—"to offer subsidies, and precipitate Russia towards a war."—We confess, that we were always weak enough to think that the ministers were deserving of *praise* for the promptitude with which they seized the first favourable moment for forming an offensive alliance with Russia; and certain it is, that most of the present ministers, and particularly Mr. Fox, incessantly urged the necessity of such an alliance, in parliament, as the only means of opposing France, with a reasonable prospect of success! But it required all the assurance of this inquirer to advance such an assertion, as that of our having *precipitated* Russia into a war, after its *falsehood* had been demonstrated, again and again, in parliament. All his assertions respecting the defects of the late confederacy are, evidently, arguments a *posteriori*; he argues from the *effect* to the *cause*, and attempts to shew that the latter could not fail

fail to produce the former. But the assertion is, like most of his assertions, at variance with the facts to which it refers. For no human sagacity could possibly foresee the pertinacious imbecility of Mack; nor the unaccountable weakness of the Austrian Emperor. And, to shew the futility of all this insidious reasoning, it is sufficient to mention one fact:—the Archduke Charles had, after the French had taken possession of Vienna, sent two couriers to his Brother, the Emperor, informing him that he was hastening to his relief with a powerful and high-spirited army; and earnestly requesting him not to venture an action until his arrival. Buonaparte, however, intercepted these couriers (whose dispatches he had anticipated), by extending his out-posts to a most unusual distance from his camp. But, had they reached the place of their destination, the Battle of Austerlitz had never been fought; and Buonaparte, with his whole army, had been exposed to the most imminent danger of total destruction. The whole state of affairs would, unquestionably, have experienced an immediate change; and it is more than probable, that Prussia would have joined the allies. It was not, then, as is most falsely stated, any defect in the grand scheme of the confederacy which occasioned its failure; but that failure was owing to circumstances which the British Cabinet could neither foresee nor controul.

Another article of the "Treaty of Concert," as he calls it, affords this writer a pretext for drawing another most absurd and most dishonest inference. It was stipulated that Russia and Austria might, if circumstances should render it expedient, disavow their connexion with England, at the opening of the campaign, though they should afterwards avow it; and hence our inquirer infers, that a Concert with England was *so odious on the Continent*, at *this time*, that our ministers ought not to have urged her allies to enter into such a Concert. But he does not condescend to use one solitary argument, in order to prove that such a Concert was more *odious* at *that* time than it would be at any other; and hence it follows, that if there be any validity in his objection, it must be equally applicable to a continental confederacy at all times; for it is difficult to conceive any period when a confederacy of this nature would not be *odious* to France, to her minion the Elector of Bavaria, and all the petty parasites which surround her; and to whom else, the Concert in question was odious, the author has not attempted to explain.

He first *invents* a dislike of us, in the minds of our allies, which certainly never prevailed, and then attempts to justify it, by "a great distrust of our political wisdom in continental affairs; and perhaps some doubts of our good faith, arising from our conduct in former wars."—But as he has not descended to specify the facts on which he builds these assertions, it is sufficient for us to give them a decided negative, without entering into any formal justification of our country against such a libel upon her character, by one of her degenerate sons.—He insists, too, that we should not have suffered the Austrians to give the command of their army to General Mack; but that we

should have insisted on nominating their commander. The position is too ridiculous to require serious notice. But we should be glad to know, if a new confederacy were on the point of being formed, and our Allies were to say to Mr. Fox, " You shall not send Lord Lauderdale to India, he was the bosom friend of Brissot, he writes a good party pamphlet, and has no small portion of zeal and activity in the defence of his principles, but he is no statesman ; we dislike his principles, and can have no confidence in him ; you must therefore appoint either the Marquis Wellesley, or Mr. Hastings, to the Government-General of your Indian territory, or we will not conclude a treaty with you ;" we should be glad, we say, to know what kind of an answer Mr. Fox would give to such an attempt to interfere with the appointment of our own officers ?

We are not disposed to defend the conduct of Austria in any part of the last short, but decisive, campaign ; it was one continued scene of imbecility, treachery, and error. We have exposed it in much stronger terms than our inquirer ; but we have contended, and ever shall contend, that no blame can possibly, on that account, attach to the British Cabinet. But it is too ridiculous to hear this man contending, that we ought to have interfered, to prevent the injustice attending the violation of the Bavarian territory by the Austrians ; in other words, we should have countenanced the base treachery of an unprincipled enemy to our ally ! Britons have credulity enough, we know ; but surely they are not quite such idiots as to be the dupes of such party quackery as this.

Lest we should be tempted to look forward, from the contemplation of the horrid picture here presented to our view, to better times, this political fiend seeks to blast the wretch's last comfort—Hope, by insisting on the " *absurdity of expecting any improvement* " in the fortunes of the Continent " for a long course of years ;" and he deprecates every attempt to form a new confederacy against France !

The conduct of our Ministers, in declaring war against Spain, forms another ground of censure to our inquirer, who boldly maintains, that never was our popularity greater in that country, than at the period immediately preceding the war ; when France was odious to Spain, who was inclined towards an offensive alliance with England. As this is a mere *gratis-dictum* of the author, utterly unsupported by proof, and at variance with all the facts known respecting the disposition of the Spanish Cabinet at the time, when it was under the controul of that minion of France, the Prince of Peace, who did not blush to render his native country the tributary slave of a foreign assassin, we shall content ourselves with a simple contradiction. Never was greater forbearance shewn to any Power by another, than was shewn by Great Britain to Spain at the juncture alluded to ; indeed the extent to which it was carried could only be justified by the abject state to which Spain was reduced by the tyranny of France, and by the pity which it was calculated to inspire. But had this indulgence been extended any farther, and Spain been suffered to draw

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her treasures from South America, to pour into the coffers of France, and thus supply our enemies with the sinews of war (to say nothing of the colonial produce which France would have safely received through the same channel), our Ministers would have betrayed a criminal neglect of their duty, and would have richly deserved, not only all that this author *says* of them, but all that he *thinks* of them. To justify Spain, and to criminate Great Britain, and, for that purpose, to believe all the assertions of the former, and to disbelieve those of the latter, form such an essential part of his system, that he could not have omitted it without a flagrant inconsistency.

A few pages of this *luminous* Inquiry are bestowed on the Dutch, apparently with a view to convince them that, bad as their present situation is, it would be rendered infinitely worse by any attempt of foreigners to rescue them from the yoke; and they are told, with as much gravity as if the author were really convinced of the truth of what he asserts, that "such a country must always dread a change as the greatest of all evils;" and yet he is an advocate for King William, and for the Revolution, which, had he lived at the time, and entertained the same sentiments as he now *professes*, he must, unless his professions and practice were at variance, have vehemently opposed 'as the greatest of evils,"—"however sure he might be of its leading to the emancipation of his country, and however zealous to see her once more independent." Admirable Whig! He gives us some *novel* information in this branch of his Inquiry, by telling us, that the Dutch prefer their present masters to those who would attempt to emancipate them, and by assuring us "that the accounts of their oppressions are greatly exaggerated!!!" But his notions of *oppression* are peculiar to himself; and, if our readers can believe that the French are so used to the military conscription, that it sits quite light and easy upon them, so as scarcely "to occasion more inconvenience or discontent, than the milder expedients of the militia law do in this island;" though it extend to every man who, "whatever be his rank, or his fortune, or his pursuits in life, must give up every other view as soon as he reaches his twentieth year, and devote his life for five years to the profession of arms alone;" if, we say, our readers can believe this, they may, perhaps, be disposed to give the author credit for the comfort and happiness enjoyed by the Dutch, under the merciful protection of Napoleone Buonaparte.

He lastly pleads the cause of the Americans, and labours, with surprizing ingenuity, to persuade us, that whether the produce of the French and Spanish Colonies be taken directly home in American vessels, or by a circuitous course, or whether they be not taken at all, is of little or no consequence to us; and he attempts, indirectly, to question the legality and justice of our interference to prevent such illicit proceedings. It is sufficient to notice such attempts; they need no comment. But when he tells us that America is "a state where no undue bias has ever been shewn—a state where so many circumstances concur to establish the influence of English principles and connexions;"

nexions;" when we read this, and refer to the outrageous conduct of the United States towards this Country for some time past, and the notorious affection of their President for France and French principles, we cannot but admire the cool effrontery of the author.

Some tolerably just remarks occur, on the impolicy of Austria in her treatment of her loyal subjects of Hungary, but objections of every kind are reserved for Great Britain and her Allies, while not a single speck is discovered in the meridian sun of revolutionary France; nor any thing but an object of admiration pointed out in her rebellious and regicidal Usurper. If this book had been written in French, and published in France, its contents would have been considered as natural and well-adapted to the country and cause; but being composed in England, and professedly by an Englishman, it is not easy to characterize it, nor yet to account for its appearance on any good or justifiable motive. How Lord Grenville, and the Noblemen and Gentlemen of his Party will bear to be told, that "they have *fallen heirs to* a succession made up of all the dangers and difficulties which a *long course of mismanagement* and misfortune has accumulated upon the country;"—or of "*the hopelessness of England's situation, if she still* persists in building upon the chance of an immediate resistance to the influence of France," we cannot say; but this we can with safety say, that such language is utterly unworthy of a Briton. On two points, however, we fully concur with the author—first, in speaking of the new Ministers, that "no compromise of principles, no paltry, half measures, no incongruous mixture of big words and little doings, will bear them out in redeeming their pledge to save the Country;"—and secondly, in the necessity of "entrusting our intercourse with foreign nations to men of talents and acquirements, adapted to so weighty and difficult a department of affairs." But, as to this last point, we should be glad to hear our author explain how far his *expectations* have been fulfilled, by the appointment of Mr. Robert Adair to the important embassy to Vienna, and by that of the Marquis of Douglas to the Court of St. Petersburg, at this critical period, while men of such "talents and acquirements," and experience and knowledge, as Lords Malmesbury and Minto, Mr. Thomas Grenville, and Mr. Elliot, are suffered to remain inactive at home? He wishes for a change of policy both in India and Ireland; and to gratify that wish in its utmost plenitude, nothing more is requisite, than to send Lord Lauderdale to the former, and Mr. Grattan to the latter, and he need not fear that the change will be radical and effective.

Our readers will be able to appreciate the merits of this Inquiry, from the account which we have given of the work. It exhibits one proof amongst a thousand, of the degeneracy of the age, in which we recognize little of the spirit of the old Whigs, and still less of the temper of the ancient Tories. The author is certainly possessed of ability, though he appears to us, in the present instance, to have prostituted it to a vile purpose—the degradation of his country, and the encouragement of her inveterate enemy.

It

It only remains for us to cite some of the grammatical inaccuracies to which we adverted at the beginning of this article.—"All the exertions which the Swiss can make *is* (are) inadequate," &c. P. 157. —"Neither the right of search, *nor* the prohibition of contraband, nor the power of blockade, *have* (has) for some time past been called in question." P. 179.—The style, with few exceptions, however, is easy and perspicuous; and the language, generally, good and correct.

On the Descent of Christ into Hell, and the intermediate State. A Sermon on 1 *Peter*, iii. 18, 19, 20. By Samuel Lord Bishop of St. Asaph. 4to. Pp. 18. Hatchard. 1804.

THIS is a very masterly sermon on an interesting subject, and ought not to have been so long overlooked by us. It was committed in due time, to the care of a gentleman well qualified to do it ample justice; but from causes with which the public has no concern, he put it off from day to day; and it had escaped the Editor's recollection, till it fell into his hands on his friend's death.

The object of the learned prelate is to establish the truth of the third article of religion, which, declares, that, "as Christ died for us, and was buried; so also is it to be believed that he went down into Hell." The only question, as his Lordship justly observes, that can possibly arise to a plain man's understanding, is, Where or what the place may be, which is here called Hell?

"The word *Hell* is so often applied in common speech, and in the English translation of the New Testament, to the place of torment, that the genuine meaning of the word, in which however it is used in many passages of the English Bible, is almost forgotten; and the common people never hear of Hell, but their thoughts are carried to that dismal place, *where the fallen angels are kept in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day*. But the word, in its natural import, signifies only that invisible place, which is the appointed habitation of departed souls, in the interval between death and the general resurrection. That such a place must be, is indisputable. For when man dieth, his soul dieth not; but returneth unto him that gave it, to be disposed of at his will and pleasure; which is clearly implied in that admonition of our Saviour: 'Fear not them who kill the body, but cannot kill the soul.' But the soul, existing after death and separated from the body, though of a nature immaterial, must be in some place. For however metaphysicians may talk of place, as one of the adjuncts of body, as if nothing but gross sensible body could be limited by place; to exist without relation to place, seems to be one of the incommunicable perfections of the Divine Being; and it is hardly to be conceived, that any created spirit, of however high an order, can be without locality; or without such determination of its existence at any given time to some place, that it shall be true to say of it—*Here it is, and not elsewhere.* That such at least is the condition of the human soul, were

were it seasonable to go into so abstruse a disquisition, might be proved, I think, indisputably from Holy Writ."

Into this invisible place, the Bishop labours to prove, and we think proves completely, that the soul of our blessed Lord went at his death, and remained in it till his resurrection. One of his proofs is, the remarkable passage which he has chosen for his text, and which not only asserts the fact, but declares also the business upon which Christ descended into Hell, or in which, at least, his soul was employed while it was there.

"The interpretation of the whole passage turns upon the expression *spirits in prison*; the sense of which I shall first, therefore, endeavour to ascertain, as the key to the meaning of the whole. It is hardly necessary to mention, that *spirits* here can signify no other spirits than the souls of men. For we read not of any preaching of Christ to any other race of beings than mankind. The Apostle's assertion, therefore, is this; that Christ *went and preached to the souls of men in prison*. The invisible mansion of departed spirits, though certainly not a place of penal confinement to the good, is, nevertheless, in some respects, a prison. It is a place of seclusion from the external world; a place of unfinished happiness, consisting in rest, security, and hope, more than enjoyment. It is a place, which the souls of men never would have entered, had not sin introduced death; and from which there is no exit by natural means, for those who have entered. The deliverance of the saints from it is to be effected by our Lord's power. It is described in the old Latin language, as a place inclosed within an impassable fence; and in the poetical parts of scripture, it is represented as secured by gates of brass, which our Lord is to batter down; and barricaded with large massive iron bars, which he is to cut asunder. As a place of confinement, therefore, though not of punishment, it may well be called a prison. The original word, however, in the text of the Apostle, imparts not of necessity so much as this; but merely a place of safe-keeping; for so this passage might be rendered with great exactness. '*He went and preached to the spirits in safe-keeping.*'"

This is exceedingly ingenious, and certainly agreeable to the doctrine of the universal church, till the Popish schoolmen converted the primitive notions of an intermediate state into their own fond dream of purgatory. The Bishop, however, is perfectly aware that difficulties arise out of the particular character of the souls in custody, to whom St. Peter, according to him, represents the soul of our Saviour as preaching during its disembodied state. He supposes with great probability, that the subject of his preaching was, that he had actually offered the sacrifice of their redemption, and was about to appear before the Father as their intercessor, in the merit of his own blood.

"This was a preaching fit to be addressed to departed souls, and would give new animation and assurance to their hope of the consummation, in due season, of their bliss; and this, it may be presumed, was the end of his preaching. But the great difficulty in the description of the souls to whom this preaching, for this purpose, was addressed, is this; that they were

were souls of some of the antediluvian race. Not that it at all startles me to find antediluvian souls in safe keeping for final salvation. But the great difficulty, of which, perhaps, I may be unable to give any adequate solution, is this: for what reason should the proclamation of the finishing of the great work of redemption, be addressed to the souls of these antediluvian penitents? were not the souls of the penitents of later ages equally interested in the joyful tidings? To this I can only answer, that I think I have observed, in some parts of Scripture, an anxiety, if the expression may be allowed, of the sacred writers to convey distinct intimations that the antediluvian race is not uninterested in the redemption and the final retribution. It is for this purpose, as I conceive, that, in the description of the general resurrection, in the visions of the Apocalypse, it is mentioned with a particular emphasis, that the SEA gave up the dead that were in it; which I cannot be content to understand of the few persons (few in comparison of the total of mankind) lost at different times by shipwreck; a poor circumstance to find a place in the midst of the magnificent images which surround it: but of the myriads who perished in the general deluge, and found their tomb in the waters of that raging ocean. It may be conceived, that the souls of those who died in that dreadful visitation, might, from that circumstance, have peculiar apprehensions of themselves as the marked victims of divine vengeance, and might peculiarly need the consolation which the preaching of our Lord, in the subterranean regions, afforded to these prisoners of hope."

This may not only be conceived, but is in itself so extremely probable, that we cannot help wondering that it never occurred to himself. To us, however, it did not occur; and the excellent Bishop of St. Asaph has the honour, as far as we know, of giving, in this sermon, the first natural, and therefore, satisfactory, interpretation of a difficult, though important, text of Scripture. That his Lordship has made good his great point, that the soul of Christ was, during the short period that elapsed between his death and resurrection, in the invisible receptacle of departed spirits, appears to us incontrovertible. The reader, however, will not, from the extracts that we have given, feel half the force of his reasoning, which is in every respect worthy of its author, and more we cannot say in its favour.

We shall take the liberty, at the same time, to observe, that his Lordship has not proved to our entire satisfaction, that the invisible region of departed souls is in "the lower parts of the earth." It is true, that in some passages of Scripture, where a popular language is employed, the souls of dead men are represented as descending into *hell*, or *hades*; but there are others which seem to give a different account of their progress. "Who knoweth (says Solomon) the spirit of man, that goeth upward; and the spirit of the beast, that goeth downward to the earth?" (Eccl. iii. 21). We think, likewise, that a determined follower of the late Bishop Law, and Dr. Taylor, of Norwich, might object to his calling their notion of the sleep of the soul, "gloomy and discouraging;" and even contend, that it is less gloomy than his own view of the intermediate state. "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick," said the wisest of men; whilst nothing

seems

seems to be more certain, than that any portion of time unperceived, however long it may be in itself, must appear to have passed away as an instant. To this objection, however, we think that we could make at least a plausible reply, on the authority of Scripture; but the subject is in much abler hands, and in those hands we leave it.

POLITICS.

A Dispassionate Inquiry into the best Means of National Safety. By John Bowles, Esq. 8vo. Pp. 116. Hatchard, London; Meyler, Bath. 1806.

THOSE who are acquainted with the multifarious writings of this intelligent and able writer, will readily acknowledge him to be one of the most eminent defenders of the best interests of his country. Of several of his former publications, our readers are already in possession of our opinion; and we can conscientiously assure them, that whatever reputation those works have obtained for the writer, the present production is not likely to tarnish. Indeed, we consider it as one of the best of Mr. Bowles's productions, both in *manner* and in *matter*. He justly regards the present crisis as one big with danger, and calculated to inspire all reflecting minds with serious apprehensions; but he contends, that Great Britain is not to blame for the dreadful situation in which the European Continent is now placed. All that human wisdom, foresight, or policy, could do, she certainly did. On this subject, the following reflections are entitled to notice.

"The Treaties which, by His Majesty's command, have been presented to both Houses of Parliament, confirm in a very material, and to us, most interesting point, the foregoing *general* observations; by proving, that the formation of the late unsuccessful confederacy for the deliverance of Europe, reflects the highest lustre on the character of this country; and *that*, on account, not only of its unwearied industry, of its indefatigable efforts, in the general cause, but also of the sound policy, or rather, of the consummate wisdom, displayed by it in this most important and difficult transaction. The true spirit and design of the league are clearly unfolded, in the Treaty of Concert between His Majesty and the Emperor of all the Russias, signed at St. Petersburgh the 11th of April, 1805. In the preliminary clause of that Treaty it is stated, that these Sovereigns, 'animated with the desire of restoring to Europe the peace, independence, and happiness of which it is deprived by the unbounded ambition of the French Government, and the immoderate degree of influence which it is striving to arrogate to itself, have resolved to employ every means in their power to obtain this salutary end, and to prevent the renewal of similar disastrous circumstances.' Then follows the nomination of Plenipotentiaries on the part of the two Sovereigns respectively. In the first article of the Treaty, its object is again explained in the following manner: 'Art. I. As the state of suffering in which Europe is placed demands speedy

speedy remedy, their Majesties, &c. have mutually agreed to consult upon the means of putting a stop thereto, without waiting for farther encroachments on the part of the French Government. They have agreed, in consequence, to employ the most speedy and efficacious means *to form a general league of the States of Europe*, and to engage them to accede to the present concert; and, in order to accomplish the end proposed, to collect together a force which, independently of the succours furnished by his Britannic Majesty, may amount to 500,000 effective men; and to employ the same with energy, in order either to induce or to compel the French Government to agree to the re-establishment of peace, and of the equilibrium of Europe.' By the third article, 'His Britannic Majesty, in order to concur efficaciously, on his side, to the happy effects of the present concert, engages to contribute to the common efforts, by employing his forces, both by sea and land, as well as his vessels adapted for transporting troops, in such manner as shall be determined upon in the general plan of operation. His Majesty will, moreover, assist the different powers by subsidies, the amount of which shall correspond to the respective forces which shall be employed,' 'in the proportion of 125,000*l.* sterling for each 100,000 men of regular troops.'

"The sixth separate article of the Treaty of Concert displays, in the clearest manner, the genuine principles of the league. It is as follows: 'His Majesty the King of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and His Majesty the Emperor of all the Russias, being disposed to form an energetic concert, with the sole view of ensuring to Europe a lasting and solid peace, founded upon the principles of justice, equity, and the law of nations, by which they are constantly guided, are aware of the necessity of a mutual understanding at this time, upon several principles, which they will evince in pursuance of a previous concert, as soon as the events of the war may render it necessary.

"'These principles are in no degree to controul the public opinion in France, or in any other countries where the combined armies may carry on their operations, with respect to the form of government which it may be proper to adopt; nor to appropriate to themselves, till a peace be concluded, any of the conquests made by one or the other of the belligerent parties; and to take possession of the towns and territories which may be wrested from the common enemy, in the name of the country or state to which, by acknowledged right, they belong, and in all other cases, in the name of all the members of the league; and, finally, to assemble, at the termination of the war, a general congress, to discuss and fix the provisions of the law of nations on a more determined basis than unfortunately has hitherto been practicable; and to ensure their observance by the establishment of a federative system, calculated upon the situation of the different states of Europe.'

"The first observation which the review of such a concert suggests, is, that the league was in its nature not only strictly defensive, but essentially pacific, in the genuine sense of that term. Its real object was not war, though a renewal of hostilities on the Continent was likely to result from it, but the restoration of peace, by the only means which afforded any reasonable hope of that desirable event; and the destination of the force which it was agreed to collect, was in no respect hostile to France, but merely to give effect to demands which were nothing less than essential to the independence

dependence and security of Europe; or, as it was expressed, 'to induce or compel the French Grvernment to agree to the re-establishment of peace, and of the equilibrium of Europe.' In further proof of the justness of this construction, it is stated in the eleventh separate article of the Treaty above cited, that 'the high contracting parties' acknowledge 'the necessity of supporting *the propositions of peace* which it is their intention to make to Buonaparte, by energetic demonstrations.' And in the act of accession of the Court of Vienna to the concert, it is stated, that 'His Imperial and Royal Majesty engages to execute, without delay, the military arrangements agreed upon at Vienna, as well for the armed demonstration *which is to facilitate the negotiation*, as for the operations against the enemy which may ensue.'

"With regard to the policy of forming such a league, considering the magnitude and the distribution of the force which was provided for its support, it is to be remembered, that the Emperor of Russia—whose generous ardour in the cause of Europe and of mankind, and whose dauntless intrepidity, in exposing his person in support of that cause, are above all praise—by the fifth separate article of the Treaty of Concert, engaged to march, as soon as possible, an army of not less than 60,000 men to the frontiers of Austria, and another of not less than 80,000 men to the Prussian frontiers; and that, by an additional article, the same Monarch is stated to have determined, in case circumstances should require it, to bring into action 180,000 men. It appears also, in a declaration, dated 9th of August, 1805, signed by His Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg, and delivered to the Russian and Austrian Ministers, that His Imperial and Royal Majesty, the Emperor of Austria, had engaged 'to embody an armed force of not less than 320,000 men.' And it was stipulated, that on the 1st of October, 1805, the Austrian army, in the field, should amount to 315,000 men, besides militia.

"Thus did Russia and Austria alone stipulate for 500,000 men; and the King of Sweden, by a Treaty with His Britannic Majesty, signed at Backascog, 3d October, 1805, engaged to furnish 12,000 men, to act in concert with the allies."

Mr. Bowles then proceeds to ask, whether any man would not, in the summer of 1805, have deemed such a confederacy an event *most devoutly to be wished?* Without fear of contradiction, we answer, with every friend to the country, in the affirmative. And, notwithstanding the delusive sophistry of the *Inquirer* whose notable performance is noticed in a preceding part of this Number, we assert, that if the present Administration had been then in power, their first effort would have been to form such a league; and, had they succeeded in forming it, they would have held up their success to the country, and justly too, as an irrefragable proof of their capacity for filling the high situations which they enjoyed. We recommend the following passage to the serious attention of the aforesaid Jesuitical Inquirer, as it affords a complete refutation of one of his own absurd positions.

"One more circumstance attending the formation of the above league deserves to be noticed, as it evinces both the sound policy of the British Government, and its indefatigable endeavours to improve every opportunity of exciting the powers of Europe to unite against an enemy, who owed his successes more to their divisions, than to his own strength and resources.

esources. By forming the concert with Russia alone, and by engaging that power to employ its influence with Austria, in order to induce the latter to accede to the plan, the Cabinet of London took the best, perhaps the only possible means, not only of obtaining the wished for alliance, but also of preventing the concert from being discovered and frustrated by France, before it could be brought to maturity. To this circumstance it was owing, that the League was completed with such secrecy, as to justify the observation before made, that 'it burst forth at once, in full maturity, upon an astonished world.' "

Our readers must be aware of the perfect coincidence between the sentiments of Mr. Bowles, and those which we have ourselves invariably expressed on this interesting topic. It will farther appear in the reflections on the conduct of that illustrious Statesman whose death, as we confidently predicted, is more and more regretted every day.

"A sense, both of justice and of gratitude, demands the acknowledgement, that the Confederacy which bade fair to rescue Europe from the state of debasement and vassalage in which she was plunged, and to restore her to independence and security, was the work of that great Statesman, whose loss this country has deplored as one of the heaviest calamities which could possibly befall it; and was a glorious termination of his illustrious life:—a work which, notwithstanding its failure, will excite the wonder of future ages—and which would be sufficient to transmit, with unrivalled lustre, the name of Pitt to the latest posterity. This is no exaggeration. In the eye of unbiassed reason, the framer of the late powerful and well-concerted league, deserves, on *that* account, no less applause than all mankind would have been eager to bestow on him, if it had met with the most complete success; and he had been universally hailed, as in that case he must have been—the deliverer of Europe, from the most ferocious, oppressive, and wide-spreading tyranny, that has ever been established on the face of the earth.

"This tribute is due to departed excellence; and it will be felt to be so by many who have been backward in doing justice to living worth. A higher tribute, however, to *that* excellence is demanded by the dearest interests of this country. As by contemplating great characters, the mind is warmed with admiration, until it kindles into congeniality, nothing can be better calculated to raise the mind of this country to a level with its present most arduous situation, than the contemplation of the character of Mr. Pitt. But who shall attempt to delineate such a character? Who can adequately describe those matchless talents, which excited the astonishment even of those who were best acquainted with the models of Grecian and Roman eloquence; talents, too, so various, as never to have been before united in the same individual; each of which was sufficient to render its possessor an object of the highest admiration, and which, collectively, formed a constellation of genius and ability, such as had never before illumed the political world? Mr. Pitt, however, possessed far higher claims to admiration and estimation, than it is in the power of talents to bestow. He was cast upon times which called for an uncommon display of those qualities in which true greatness consists, and he displayed those qualities in a manner, certainly never surpassed, perhaps never equalled. By his comprehension, energy, and firmness of mind; by his decision of character; by his intrepidity of soul; he became the bulwark,

and, under Providence, the preserver of his country, at a crisis of unprecedented difficulty, danger, and dismay.—But his highest merits are yet untouched. If it be true that 'an honest man's the noblest work of God,' how noble a work was that man, who not only maintained the most perfect integrity, the most unsullied purity, in situations where those virtues are exposed to the severest trials, but who superadded thereto, such a disinterestedness of mind, such an indifference to every personal feeling and consideration, such an entire and absolute devotedness to his country, that in him the attachment to self, which seems to be inseparably interwoven with our nature, was lost and absorbed in unceasing solicitude for the public welfare.

"After all, to do justice to this truly great man, he must be viewed in that trying situation in which all temporal interests fade away, and an eternal scene opens to the view. In that awful state he shone with increased lustre. Building his hopes of approaching and endless felicity on the only *safe* foundation, he still continued to feel that solicitude for his country, to which his life was a sacrifice; on his death-bed, he displayed the highest excellence that can adorn the human character; and, with his expiring breath, he proved himself a real patriot, and a true Christian."

Mr. Bowles next proceeds to consider the dismal consequences of the failure of that Confederacy, and the means necessary to be adopted for averting the dangers which threaten us. *Patience*, *perseverance*, and *fortitude*, he recommends as, at least, *as* essential, as the more active qualities of vigour and courage, if not more so. And, indeed, there is too much reason to fear, that our patience will be put to a severe trial; for the end of the present contest, who can perceive? Every effort will be made by the enemy to *tire us out*; and if our patience and fortitude be exhausted, we must inevitably become *his slaves*. The consideration of the temper of mind necessary for the encouragement of these passive virtues, naturally leads the author to the moral part of his subject, which he treats with the hand of a master; but through which, our limits forbid us to accompany him. He comments, with just censure, but without asperity; with the temper of a Christian, and not with the spirit of a fanatic; on the prevailing vices of the age; its dissipation, voluptuousness, and luxury. These he traces to their various sources, and indicates, as he proceeds, the appropriate remedies. He dwells, with peculiar energy, on the importance of religion to the well-being of society; and on the necessity of giving to religion every support which the law can afford it.

"Such being the influence of religion upon the morals of a country, it behoves every one who is solicitous for that reformation which we so much need, to remember, that a religious establishment is necessary to keep alive that sense of religion, which is the active, and the only genuine principle of virtue. Because those who do not belong to such an establishment are often exemplary moral characters, many persons are apt to imagine, that a National Church is not conducive to morality. But it is easily demonstrable, both by reasoning and experience, that such a Church is not only essential to the public tranquillity, and to the safety of the state, but necessary, also, by providing for the regular and public worship of the Almighty, to preserve a country from indifference and apathy in regard to religion. Every serious and moral separatist from the church will, therefore, while he professes that religion which his conscience

science best approves; feel it to be his duty to avoid and discourage whatever tends, by the remotest possibility, to injure the Established Church; for whatever has such a tendency, not only exposes the state to be torn by religious dissentions, but also endangers the vital interests of morality itself. And surely this caution is particularly due in a country professing such a Church as that which is here established; a Church which not only breathes the genuine spirit of toleration, but also inculcates the purest system of Christian morality. The members of such a Church should remember, that a still stronger obligation, if possible, is imposed upon them, than on any other description of persons, to lead strictly virtuous lives; for they cannot be guilty of any immoral practices, without both disgracing and endangering the communion to which they belong; and from which those who are out of its pale are too often disposed to withdraw that respect which is undoubtedly its due, on account of the unworthiness of any of its members."

The excellence of this advice, no Christian will call in question. Mr. Bowles next adverts to the particular instances of vicious and irreligious practices which mark the present age. His observations on the frequent breaches of the Sabbath, and on the inadequacy of the existing laws to restrain or to punish them, are particularly striking and just. The joke of a Parliamentary buffoon is, to the shame of the Senate be it spoken, sufficient to deter the Parliament from supplying proper remedies for these notorious defects. The profligate age of our Second Charles paid such a tribute to religion, at least, as to provide means for punishing those who disobeyed the precept of the Lord to keep the Sabbath day holy; but the present age, still more profligate, in spite of the example offered from the Throne, regard such disobedience with indifference, and suffer the wisdom of Legislation to be baffled by a jest; thus holding out every encouragement to that vice which it is its bounden duty to suppress. Puritanism we abhor as much as any men can do, and the sour asperity of fanaticism shall ever meet with correction from us. But it is not fanatical to say, with Mr. (now Lord) Erskine, that "the religious and moral sense of Great Britain is the sheet-anchor which alone can hold the vessel of the state, amidst the storms which agitate the world." And, if this be a truth, and who will dare to deny it? is it not the bounden duty of the Legislature, to adopt proper means for the preservation of that religious and moral sense? And how can it be preserved, if respect for the Sabbath be not enforced by law? The statute of Charles inflicts only a penalty of 5*s.* for a breach of the Sabbath; but, if the comparative value and effect of money be considered, the penalty ought now to be, at least, 3*l.*; and for the second, and each subsequent, offence, it ought to be increased. As it is, many tradesmen, if detected, pay the penalty, laugh at the law, and persist in the violation of it. Either the law was wrong in the first instance, and ought to be repealed; or it was right, and ought to be enforced. In either case, the Legislature are to blame. But independently of the inefficacy of the law itself, the laxity with which it is enforced is, of itself, sufficient to render it nugatory. Breaches of the Sabbath increase in frequency and grossness; the magistracy, for the most part, remain inert and passive; and, sometimes, render the law subservient to that discretion which, by their oath, they are fortunately forbidden to exercise. Mr. Bowles recommends the formation of societies, in every parish, for aiding the magis-

tracy in carrying the laws into effect. Societies of this kind, for the suppression of immorality and vice, were formed in an early part of the last century, during the reign of KING WILLIAM, and, under the royal patronage, which were productive of the most beneficial effects; and when we consider that the Magistrates, however vigilant and active they may be, have not the means within themselves of detecting the numerous offenders of this description with which the country, and in particular the metropolis, swarm; surely it would be wise and proper to follow such an example, to which the Whig-admirers of that monarch would, of course, give the warmest support. We have, indeed, heard it contended by some, who mistake assurance for knowledge, and pertness for wit, that the members of such societies are guilty of the offence of *maintenance*.—Swindlers and thieves will, of course, feel very much indebted to such sages for this notable discovery; and will, no doubt, order forthwith indictments to be preferred against the Association of Tradesmen in London for the Prosecution and Punishment of Swindlers and Cheats; and against the remaining parochial associations in different parts of the kingdom, for the prosecution and punishment of thieves. Certainly if the one be guilty of *maintenance*, the others are. It happens, however, unfortunately, that the late Chief Justice of the King's Bench was a member of a Society for the Suppression of Vice, and could not discover its illegality; and the present Chief Justice has, *ex cathedra*, declared the legality of such societies.

We sincerely wish that the able efforts of this zealous advocate for religion and morality, may be attended with the desired effect. But, we confess, that to us there appears such a marked indifference, such a total apathy, in respect of all religious and moral concerns, in a vast majority even of good and moral men, that we almost despair of their success.—Still it is the duty of every one to stem the torrent, and the consciousness of having discharged that duty will be a sufficient reward.

A State of the Allegations and Evidence produced, and Opinions of Merchants and other Persons given, to the Committee of Council; extracted from their Report of the 31st of May, 1784, *on His Majesty's Order of Reference of the 8th of March last, made upon the Representation of the West India Planters and Merchants, purporting to shew the Distressed State of His Majesty's Sugar Colonies, by the Operation of His Majesty's Order in Council of the 2d of July*, 1783; *and the Necessity of allowing a free Intercourse between the Sugar Colonies and the United States of America, in American Bottoms*. 8vo. Pr. 186. Printed in the Year 1784, and Re-printed by Order of the Society of Ship-Owners of Great Britain. 1806.

IF ever there were a Bill before Parliament that required the maturest deliberation, and the fullest discussion, it is that which is now under consideration, for allowing direct intercourse between our Colonies and the United States of America. It involves interests of immense importance to this country; it affects most sensibly that grand source of our maritime greatness, the navigation laws; and to that most valuable body of men, the Ship-Owners, who are, on all accounts, entitled to every degree of encouragement which the legislature can give them, it is of the utmost

utmost consequence. What can possibly have given rise to that unwise and most mistaken system of policy, which has led us to court America by boons and concessions, detrimental to our own interests, we are totally at a loss to conceive. After having rebelled against us, she has treated us with the basest ingratitude, and with the most scandalous dishonesty; and yet our Ministers still continue to soothe and to flatter her, and that even while she displays the most hostile temper, and the most aggressive spirit towards us. It is proper, we know, for individual Christians to return good for evil; but, in the policy of commercial states, we believe, no such maxim is admitted. We cannot set this matter in a stronger point of view than was done by the Committee of the Privy Council, whose Report, in the beginning of the year 1791, is given in the pamphlet before us. The last pages of this Report we shall extract, as highly deserving the most serious attention of Parliament, and indeed of every man who considers our navigation laws, and our maritime greatness, as worthy of preservation.

"After full consideration of all that has been offered on the subject of navigation, the Committee think that there is but one proposition which it will be advisable for the Ministers of Great Britain to make on this head to the Government of the United States, in any negotiation for a commercial treaty between the two countries, viz. That British ships, trading to the ports of the United States, shall be there treated, with respect to the duties of tonnage and import, in like manner as ships of the United States shall be treated in the ports of Great Britain.

"If this principle of equality is admitted by the Government of the United States, as the basis of negotiation, it will be proper then to consider, whether ships of the United States, trading to the ports of Great Britain, should not be made subject to the aliens duty, as well as other foreign ships; and in return that Congress should impose on British ships, trading to their ports, some distinction, equivalent to the amount of the aliens duty; or whether every distinction of this nature should not be abolished on both sides. The Committee have offered already some reasons, which induce them to think that the first of these alternatives should be adopted.

"If Congress should propose to apply the rule of abolishing all distinctions to Trinity dues, light-house duties and pilotage, such a proposition cannot be complied with. These several sorts of charges are of ancient establishment, and are the property of private persons, or of corporate bodies; and the funds arising from them are, in many instances, applicable to public works, or charitable purposes. An attempt to equalize them would affect the interests of many of the ports of this kingdom, and alter their relative situations; in consideration of the distinction which time and accident have made in all these respects, docks, magazines, and other buildings, have been erected in several ports of the kingdom at the charge of individuals: any change of this nature would have the effect of increasing the great advantages which the capital of Great Britain already enjoys in carrying on its commerce, over many of the other ports of the kingdom; and lastly, if this favour was granted to the ships of the United States, other nations would be induced to claim the like equality, which it is impossible to grant, consistently with the interests of this country.

" If Congress should propose (as they certainly will) that this principle of equality should be extended to *the ports of our Colonies and Islands*, and that the ships of the United States should be *there* treated as British ships, it should be answered, that this demand *cannot be admitted*, even as a subject of negotiation. By the public law of Europe, every nation has a right to regulate the commerce which it carries on with its own Colonies, in the manner that shall appear to be the most conducive to the interest of the mother country; in regulations of this sort, *no foreign government has any right to interfere*; this branch of freight is of the same nature with the freight from one American State to another; Congress has made regulations to confine the freight, employed between different states, to the ships of the United States, and Great Britain does not object to this restriction. The United States at present enjoy all the rights and privileges of an independent nation; and, as such, *they now have no pretence to claim the privileges* which they once enjoyed as British Colonies.

" If, in the course of this negotiation, it should be proposed to treat on maritime regulations, the Committee are of opinion, that the Government of Great Britain may consent to insert, in a commercial treaty with the United States, all the *articles* of maritime law which have of late been inserted in our commercial treaties with other foreign powers; except that any article allowing the ships of the United States to protect *the property of the enemies of Great Britain in time of war*, should on no account be admitted; it would be more dangerous to concede this privilege *to the ships of the United States*, than to those of any other foreign country: from their situation the ships of these States would be able to cover the whole trade of France and Spain, with *their Islands and Colonies* in America and the West Indies, whenever Great Britain shall be engaged in a war with either of those Powers; and *the Navy of Great Britain* would, in such case, be deprived of the means of *distressing* the enemy, by destroying his commerce, and thereby diminishing his resources.

" The Lords of the Committee agree in opinion with the merchants of London, Bristol and Glasgow, that before any measure of an adverse nature is adopted, it is proper that attempts should be made by negotiation to induce the Congress of the United States to consent to some fair and equitable plan of accommodation, and to a liberal system of commerce and navigation, founded on reciprocal advantages. It has been shewn, in a former part of this Report, that, from the time that peace was concluded, and that the United States were acknowledged by treaty to be independent, the Government of this Country have never taken any hostile step to mark their resentment on account of the many oppressive, and even unjust laws, to which the merchants of Great Britain were made subject by the Legislatures of the several States, previous to the formation of the present federal Government. After an angry contest of seven years continuance, it was not to be supposed that all resentment would at once be extinguished in the minds of the people of the United States: in such a state of things, forbearance, on the part of Great Britain, in every thing not essential, was a prudent as well as dignified line of conduct; there was reason to hope that the spirit which had produced many of the before-mentioned acts of commercial hostility, would in time subside, and that ancient habits, and the recollection of former connections, might bring back the people of these States to a more favourable

disposition

disposition to Great Britain; circumstances might also occur which would tend to detach them from their new connections, and make the people of the two countries, though no longer fellow-subjects, friends at least, as they were before the war; the Government of Great Britain has not been wholly mistaken in its expectations; the new system adopted by the Congress, is certainly much more favourable to the navigation and commerce of this country, than that which subsisted under the laws of particular states; and there can be no doubt, from the proceedings of Congress already stated, and from all that passed in their debates during the two last sessions, particularly in the American Senate, that a party is already formed in favour of a connection with Great Britain, which, by moderation on our part, may perhaps be strengthened and increased, so as to bring about, in a friendly way, all the objects we have in view. It would indeed be extraordinary if, after having submitted for the last seven years to a situation more disadvantageous than the present, the Government of Great Britain should at once proceed to acts of retaliation, or commercial hostility, just at the time that the powers, who now govern the United States, appear to be more favourably disposed to this country. On the other hand, it would be imprudent to place, as yet, too much confidence in the supposed intentions of the new Government, till we have learned from experience whether Congress is likely to persist in the principles it has hitherto adopted, and will have influence or power sufficient to carry the laws, founded on these principles, into execution, through all the different states.

"For these reasons the Committee are inclined to think, that it may be advisable for your Majesty to consent to open a negotiation with the United States, for the purpose of making a commercial treaty, especially as Congress appears inclined to this measure; but it will be right, in an early stage of this negotiation, explicitly to declare, that Great Britain can *never submit*, even to treat on what appears to be the *favourite object* of the people of these States, that is, *the admission of the ships of the United States into the Ports of your Majesty's Colonies and Islands*: it may be proper also to make them understand, that Great Britain has measures in view sufficient for the protection and support of its own commerce and navigation, in case Congress should proceed to make further distinctions to the detriment of these important objects, and should refuse to consent to a fair and equitable plan of accommodation. The proper mode of retaliation, which, in such an emergency may be pursued, has already been stated.

"There can be no doubt, that the commercial intercourse which at present subsists between Great Britain and the United States is highly beneficial to both countries; but it is equally certain, that the United States have much more to apprehend from any interruption of this intercourse, than Great Britain has to apprehend from any restriction which the Government of the United States may put upon it. It has been shewn, that the commerce of these States with the other nations of Europe, has hitherto been of no great extent; and there are circumstances which make the further augmentation of it very difficult. It has been shewn also, that the merchants of Great Britain alone are inclined to run the risk, and to give the credit which are essential to the support of a commercial connection with all newly established countries. The articles

which the people of the United States now send to the European markets are but few, and can be obtained in equal perfection from other countries: and it is more likely that the demand for them from thence should in future diminish, than increase. When the crops of grain in Europe happen at any time to fail, the people of the United States will have an opportunity of exporting (as in the course of last year) great quantities of corn to the markets of Europe; but there is no trade so precarious as that of corn; and no system of foreign commerce, permanently profitable, can be founded upon it; and new settlements are forming in the neighbourhood of the United States, which will soon rival them in this and in every other staple commodity which they produce. The fisheries of the United States, once so prosperous, are now greatly declined, because there is no longer any sufficient market for the sale of the produce of them; the former success of these fisheries is principally to be imputed to the share which the produce of them had before the war in the markets of the British dominions. Since the peace, the merchants of the United States have endeavoured, by means of the cheapness of the rum distilled from molasses, to carry on a trade to the Coast of Africa, but with little success; at the same time they launched also into a trade with the countries to the east of the Cape of Good Hope, particularly China, which was at first profitable; but this trade soon found its limit, and has of late very much declined; the people of the United States have not wealth sufficient to support any large consumption of Asiatic luxuries, so that those who have engaged in this trade, now found their hopes on the profits to be derived from smuggling these articles into other countries; it must be acknowledged, that the commercial intercourse between the United States and the French Islands in the West Indies, has of late been greatly increased; and it is also probable, that the merchants of these states have found opportunities to open illicit and profitable connections with the subjects of the Spanish dominions in America; but as these sorts of commercial connection, though perhaps encouraged by the people of the French and Spanish Colonies, are highly detrimental to the interests of their respective mother countries, and contrary to the laws by which the commerce of those Colonies has hitherto been regulated, the continuance of the advantages which the people of the United States may derive from these sources of wealth, must be precarious, and will depend on circumstances. Such is the present state of the commerce of the United States; the Lords of the Committee have thought it right thus to collect these considerations, which have been stated more at large in the former parts of this Report, and to bring them once more under the view of your Majesty, in order to shew that your Majesty may safely resist any unreasonable pretensions, but not to prevent a commercial arrangement with the United States, founded on terms which are consistent with the essential interests of the commerce and navigation of the British dominions."

We trust no commercial arrangement with these States will ever be founded on any other terms. After the preceding Report was printed, an Abstract was received of Exports from America, for the year ending on the 30th September 1790, which is subjoined.

"It appears, by this Abstract, that the exports from the United States to the dominions of Great Britain, are nearly one half of the whole

of

of their exports. To the dominions of France, the exports of the United States, during this period, were less than one half of the exports to the dominions of Great Britain; and it is probable that the increase of the exports to the French dominions, above the common average, was greater during this period, than the increase of the exports to Great Britain, or to any other country, as the dearth of corn in the years 1789 and 1790 affected France much more than any other European nation. It was less felt in Great Britain than in any country with which the United States have a commercial intercourse. About this period also the government of the French Islands, by regulations of their own, first opened their ports, almost without restriction, to the importation of lumber, fish, grain, live stock, and provisions, from the United States, contrary to the interests and intentions of the mother-country. It appears that the value of the lumber, fish, grain, live stock, and provisions, exported from the United States during this period, amounted to 10,968,049 dollars, or 2,467,811l. 0s. 6d. sterling, being more than one half of the whole of their exports.

"It is singular how small the value is of the produce of the whale fishery exported from the United States: it amounts only to 252,591 dollars, or 56,832l. 19s. 6d. sterling.

"This Abstract does not distinguish the exports to the several nations of Europe, from the exports to their respective Colonies; so that it is impossible to determine what proportion the first bears to the latter."

What a farce is it, then, for the Americans to threaten us with a prohibition of our manufactures. Without the revenue arising from their imports from this Country, and from their exports to it, they would not be able to pay even the few miserable ships of war which constitute the sum total of their mighty republican navy. We were never more astonished in our lives than when we heard a Noble Lord, who supported the Intercourse Bill, dwell, at such a period as the present, on the advantages which this Country derived from her trade with America; and never once adverting to the infinitely superior advantages which America herself derives from that trade. Surely there was neither wisdom nor policy in such observations. The American Congress is much wiser. Its members abuse us, but never talk of the benefits which they derive from our trade and our *capital*.

John Bull's Soliloquies on the late Impeachment. 8vo. Pp. 52. Hatchard, London; Hill, Edinburgh.

POOR John Bull, alas! has enough to *soliloquize* upon! And we have an earnest desire to amplify, to enlarge, and to extend (Mr. Romilly will pardon us), his soliloquies upon men and things, *usque ad infinitum!* The contrast between *promises* and *performances*; the former in *Brobdignag*, and the latter in *Lilliput*: between *charges* and *proofs*, *punishment* and *desert*;—but we beg pardon; we did not mean to puzzle poor John's brains, and to lead him into a train of thinking and of talking, that would involve him in inextricable confusion, and tire both his mind and his tongue. We must, however, transcribe his motto from Ben Jonson's *Every Man in his Humour*; first, because we, in our great wisdom,

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ex cathedrâ criticâ, pronounce it to be *appropriate*; and secondly, because it suits *our humour*. "Let me not live, an' I cou'dn't find in my heart to swing the whole gang of 'em one after another, and begin with him first. I am grieved it should be said he is my kinsman, and takes these courses. Well, as he *brews* so he shall drink, 'fore George!" We have heard it said, that the summit, the acme, the *ne plus ultra*, of *malice*, call it what you will, gentle reader! was exhibited by a wicked bard, in certain malevolent couplets, addressed to the late Sir John Hill, of *sage* memory.

"The worst that I wish thee for all thy d—n'd crimes,
Is to take thine own physic, and to read thine own rhymes."

But, really, for truth demands the confession from us, John Bull, in the present instance, is infinitely more malicious, for his malediction amounts to neither more nor less than this—

"The worst that I wish thee for all thy law breaches,
Is to drink thine own beer, and to read thine own speeches."

Now, in sober seriousness, we declare, that we would much rather be doomed to take "essence of water-dock, honey, and sage," than to be compelled to drink such maudlin stuff, as beer in which only the essence of *three bushels* of malt are to be found in *a whole barrel!* To be sure, if *skill* be an apt substitute for *strength**, in *beer* as in *battle*; in other words, if wormwood, molasses, and *cocculus Indicus*, be of equal efficacy with pure malt and hops, then the whole *vis vitæ* of John Bull's malice is destroyed. And as he is an easy, credulous, good-natured soul, we are willing, for once, though it hurts our conscience a little to let it so pass, take it for granted.

It is but fair to let John Bull speak for himself. Attend, therefore, courteous reader, to his *fifth* soliloquy.

"To be sure, nothing can be better contrived than the managers voting an address of thanks to themselves, and before the verdict too!! It was rather an omission in them not to bribe St. Martin's to ring a round of double bob-majors at the end of each day's trial. They have received the reward of thanks—for what? for bringing to light what never was hid? But no matter—it is not the first time a reward has been paid for supposed discoveries. Self-commendation is an easy purchase. It is bidding at our own auction. And yet, after all, there is reason in the thing. Every man must be the best judge of his own merits; and is, therefore, best qualified to pronounce his own panegyric. Besides, it were hard if those whom no one else will praise, should not be permitted to praise themselves. Is the line in Horace, or where is it?

'*Populus me sibilat, at mihi plaudo*'—

They gathered the fruit of their labours before it was ripe; but it is not wonderful that the party should be greedy of praise, considering how long the public has kept them upon short allowance."

Not merely greedy of the *whip-syllabub* of *praise*, but absolutely vo-

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* Vide Mr. Rose's speech, *passim*; and the answers of Messrs. Whitbread and Combe, *non seriatim*.

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racious of the more substantial food, *profit*. They actually fall to with as outrageous an appetite as that with which a good Catholic devours flesh and fowl on Easter Sunday, after a long meagre Lent of soup-maigre and herbs. Falstaff's ragged regiment are nothing to them. But we beg pardon for this involuntary digression, and proceed with John Bull's soliloquy.

"Alas! the verdict in expectancy—never fell into possession. The SPEAKER was rather unwary in dealing forth his eulogies with such an unsparing hand—he overpaid the purchase without looking into the title*. However, to applaud by anticipation is better far than to criminate by anticipation. The error was reversed, but there is always virtue in repentance. Did the party ever expect a verdict of victory? Did it ever seriously enter into the calculations of their arithmetic, that he would be found guilty?

"The philosopher of Laputa endeavoured to extract sun-beams from cucumbers, and he failed. How the philosopher would have stared, if his attempt had succeeded!"

Aye, marry would he, as much as if he had extracted *loyalty* from the friend of *Brissot*, or *virtue* from the successful candidate for *Hi-ten!!!*†

"This will form an era in the history of impeachments. The proportion between the magnitude of the charge, and the measure of the proof, brings to one's mind the tree mentioned by Pliny, whose leaves were as broad as a shield, but the fruit not as big as a nutmeg.

"The turn of the epigram made in allusion to the *husbandry* of Thrale, may be applied to the *management* of Whitbread:

> "The facts of the case, as impartially put,
> This conviction can't fail to inspire—
> That the proof of the charges was WHITBREAD'S ALL-BUT,
> And the calumny's WHITBREAD'S ENTIRE."

Honest John thus soliloquizes, much to the purpose, in fifteen distinct soliloquies. The *fourteenth* of these we shall extract.

"SHERIDAN, Treasurer of the Navy!—Well, the party will have worked a miracle if they have made him a good TREASURER; but they will work a miracle still greater, if they make him a good PAYMASTER. His late *divertisement* was a novel scene at Somerset-house. Its offices never before resounded with the revelry of such a festive crowd. SHERRY grows old with a good grace. He eats well, and drinks well, which things cherish corpulency; but he is still alert withal; and can say, with old FALSTAFF, 'he that will caper with me for a thousand marks, let him lend me the money, and have at him.'

"I think the broad-bottomed Administration never tripped on the fantastic toe more gracefully than at that night's carousal. SIDMOUTH's

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* There might be *policy* in all this;—an expected *dissolution*; a subsequent *election*; an—*cætera desunt*.—EDITOR.

† *En passant*, be it said, that this said candidate is very much indebted to his worthy electors for confirming, in their election of him, the truth of his assertion, that "they are the most corrupt rascals in the kingdom."

friends

friends won the palm; they footed it to the tune of 'Over the water to Charley,' admirably well. Indeed, they have been so accustomed to dance, as the old proverb says, 'to any man's pipe,' that it is not surprising they should excel; and to be sure they do 'turn half round,' and 'change sides,' with great dexterity. LAUDERDALE was in no humour for capering; he attempted a *Scotch fling*, but failed sadly, and sat down vexed and disappointed. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER performed wonders; he indeed almost regretted his own proficiency; and expressed his fears, that he should rob himself of all his reputation as a Minister of State.—A punning Peer whispered, that the value of the thing lost would be so trifling, that it could not be more than *petty* larceny at the worst."

Now as all our readers may not be *learned in the law*, for the information of such as are not so, we deem it expedient, in order that they may appreciate the malice of this said Peer, and the extent of his *libel*, to apprize them, that *petty* larceny is the offence of stealing below the value of *ten-pence*;—and we farther deliver our grave and serious opinion, that the said Peer has been guilty of a heinous offence, and ought forthwith to be impeached for *petty* treason. And, so saying, honest John, we bid thee and thy Soliloquies good night.

The True Origin of the Present War betwixt France and England, with Observations on the Expediency and Advantages of an immediate Peace. Second Edition. 8vo. PP. 52. Halle, printed; and sold at Leipzig, Bremen, and Hamburgh.

IT would appear by this pamphlet, that not only French and German publications are used on the Continent to mislead the people, and to render this country odious in the eyes of foreigners; but that English productions are likewise employed for the same purpose. The author of this tract *professes* to be an Englishman; but there is certainly nothing in it *English*, except the language. Here is the same condemnation of England and her politics, the same justification of France and her politics; the same attempt to excite despondency and despair in Britons, and to encourage and inspirit Frenchmen, as so strongly pervade the "Inquiry into the State of the Nation," written by the *Editor of the Edinburgh Review**, corrected

* That the Edinburgh Review has been constantly and diligently employed in reviling our religious and political establishments, and, not unfrequently, in ridiculing religion itself, is well known to most of our readers. Yet has one of the principal writers in it been rewarded with the office of a Commissioner for Auditing Accounts, under Lord Henry Petty's new system, a place worth 800*l.* or 1000*l.* per annum! And the author of the *Inquiry* would, we are assured, have received a still greater reward, but for the interference of one noble member of the Cabinet. So long as *such services* are deemed worthy of praise and compensation, it will be our pride to deserve *execration* and *punishment*. We trust, however, that our countrymen are not so degenerate as patiently to contemplate

corrected by Lord Holland, and *revised by Mr. Fox*, which is noticed in a former part of the present Number.

Pax optima rerum is the appropriate motto which this writer has selected with a view to persuade Britons that nothing but ruin can ensue from a continuance of the war, and that nothing but immediate peace, *on any terms*, can possibly avert ruin! The arguments adduced in support of this notable plan, are such as we have confuted a thousand times, and on which, therefore, it would be superfluous to offer any farther comments. We should think that the people of England, instead of adopting the motto of this wolf in sheep's clothing, will, from the experience which they have had of the blessed effects of the Peace of Amiens, the maiden effort of the bashful Addington, be rather disposed to reverse it, and to say, *pax pessima rerum*.

The author has the impudence to dedicate a pamphlet in which England is studiously reviled and degraded, in every point of view, to the Heir Apparent of the British Throne, whose first duty (next to that which he owes to his God, and which binds him to keep all his commandments under the penalty of eternal misery) is to uphold the honour and interests of *this* country. His Royal Highness will not feel much flattered by the appellation here bestowed on him, of THE PRINCE OF PEACE, when he recollects, that it is a title actually enjoyed by one of the most despicable minions which France has in her pay.

Thoughts on the relative State of Great Britain and of France, at the Close of Mr. Pitt's Life and Administration in 1806. 8vo. Pp. 64. 2s. 1806.

THIS pamphlet is written with great temper, moderation, and talent. It contains many just and forcible observations on the state of the Continent; and though the author greatly over-rates the intellectual strength and military skill of the Corsican Usurper, he justly appreciates the effects of his gigantic power. In the following passage, the reader will perceive a perfect coincidence of opinion with ourselves, in all the remarks which we have made on the subject.

"On surveying the transactions of the late campaign in Germany, and peculiarly those which marked its close in Moravia; the astonishment and consternation which they excite, are infinitely heightened by the reflections, that the humiliations and reverses which the Austrians sustained, and the catastrophe that followed, are attributable only to themselves. Whether we resolve it into the pusillanimity and misunderstandings of the

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plate this woeful misapplication of public money, this strange bestowal of public rewards. An inquiry into the conduct of some part of the present Ministry, in respect to places and pensions, will do more to open the eyes of the public to their real *merits*, than a thousand such Inquiries into the State of the Nation, as that which has been published under their immediate sanction. Such honourable minds as those of Earl Spencer, Lord Grenville, and Mr. Windham, would, we are sure, disdain to countenance such proceedings. But they will do well to look more closely into the conduct of their associates.

Generals,

Generals, or into the incapacity of the Ministers of the Cabinet of Vienna; or rather conceive it to have arisen from a combination of two causes, we find in it equal subject of regret. Never did Buonaparte, at any period of his life, neither at Acre, at Lodi, nor at Marengo, commit so much to fortune, as when he crossed the Danube into Moravia, in the end of November. Never did he offer to his enemies a fairer occasion to have arrested (to arrest) his victories; and to have obliterated (to obliterate) their past defeats or misfortunes. Even after the victory of Austerlitz, the Emperor Francis might have found inexhaustible resources for continuing the contest, and for eventually terminating it with honour. It is a painful, but it is a necessary task, to follow the progress of those events which produced the calamitous Peace of Presburg. Europe will long retain the traces, and deplore the fatality which led to that ignominious treaty.

"It is evident, and indeed it is not contested, even by the French themselves, that subsequent to the defeat of Austerlitz, a very large army of Russians still remained entire. The road through Teschen to Cracow lay open for the Emperor Francis's retreat. In the Imperial (Austrian) Poland, in Transylvania, in Croatia, and in Hungary, new levies, and incalculable means for renewing the war, would have been found. The auxiliary armies, on their march from Russia, would have there met the Austrian Monarch, and have formed a guard for his protection. Even in the rigours of the season, in the winter itself, he would have found the best and most powerful Ally. Buonaparte could neither have advanced with safety, nor have fallen back without disgrace and confusion.

"Before him lay Olmutz, one of the strongest fortified places in Europe, inaccessible, in a great measure, from the marshes that surround it; garrisoned and provisioned for a siege. How formidable a barrier it presents against an invader, may be estimated by the ineffectual attempt which the Great Frederic made in person, to render himself master of it in 1758. Behind Buonaparte, about fifty miles in his rear, ran the Danube; while the Archduke Charles, at the head of an army which had repulsed Massena, was on his march towards Vienna, through the western provinces of Hungary. In Bohemia, the Archduke Ferdinand, after defeating the Bavarians opposed to him, might soon extend assistance to his brothers. Nor could it be doubted that the Prussian forces, who were advancing through Franconia, must have taken eventually a decisive part in the contest, by joining the Allies. Famine, cold, darkness, and all the diseases, as well as calamities, incident to a winter's campaign in an enemy's country, were about to assail the French, and to teach their leader, a second time, the mutability of fortune which he experienced before Acre.

"Such were the circumstances, and such the aspect of affairs, at the time when the Emperor of Germany thought proper to accept an armistice, and to conclude a peace. My profound respect for the probity, the virtues, and the upright intentions of that unfortunate Prince, would impel me to draw a veil over his weakness; if the misfortunes to which it has already given birth, and the more incalculable evils which must result from it to Europe, did not forbid me to sacrifice to a false delicacy, the truth of history. Francis the Second has consummated what Louis the Sixteenth

Sixteenth began! As the latter of these sovereigns surrendered France to revolution and anarchy, so has the former delivered over Germany to pillage, spoliation, and subversion."

If this true statement of the cause of the failure of the Confederacy formed by Mr. Pitt, do not completely exculpate that Minister from the false and calumnious charges preferred against him by the writers and the scribblers of the day; we confess our inability to ascertain the meaning of the term *exculpation*. We have already said, that the author overrates the abilities of Buonaparte, and we repeat the assertion; indeed he appears to us to have taken *success* as the criterion of merit; and to ascribe to the talents of an individual, events which have proceeded from a combination of circumstances, many of them fortuitous, but chiefly deriving their united force from the treachery or imbecility of those whom the Usurper has had to encounter. Certainly the facts above stated are alone sufficient to destroy his conclusion; since if Buonaparte really possessed the qualities which he ascribes to him, he never would have placed himself in a situation in which his ruin was only averted by the pusillanimity or folly of his enemies. We most solemnly protest against the appellation of *Great*, which he assigns to the Corsican Usurper; first, for the reason already stated; and secondly, because no man, so steeped in guilt, so drenched with the blood of the innocent, so overwhelmed with crimes as Buonaparte is, can possibly, without a monstrous perversion of language and of sentiment, be so described. Indeed, in our opinion, success in the accomplishment of a plan, however grand, however gigantic, cannot be considered, with a view to ascertain the merit of the person by whom it has been accomplished, distinct from the *means* by which that success has been obtained; and we shall ever contend, that *goodness* is an essential constituent of *greatness*. Besides, whoever knows Buonaparte, must know, that the qualities of his mind are as opposite to every thing which constitutes greatness, as those of his heart are remote from goodness.—Of his conduct the following is a succinct, but pretty accurate delineation:—

"Combining the two extremes of despotism and of democracy: an Emperor in France, but in act a Jacobin; ever affecting to offer peace, while he lets loose the ravages of war; courting the people, at the same moment that he insults the Sovereign, or outrages the Government; brandishing in one hand the sword, but dexterously concealing in the other the wires of anarchy or revolution; *converting the press to every nefarious use, though exclaiming against the abuse of that weapon, when directed to expose his own violations of faith or treaty;* greedy of glory, but regardless of reputation; he resembles nothing which Europe has beheld in past times, and can neither be compared to Attila, to Clovis, nor to Charlamagne. We might be led to fancy that Milton, in describing the King of Terrors, by prophetic anticipation pourtrayed this new Monarch, sprung like a phantom from the ashes of the French Revolution, shadowy, undefinable, and terrific.

"———————— The other shape,
If shape it might be called, that shape had none,
Distinguishable in member, joint, or limb:
Or substance might be called, that shadow seemed:
For each seemed either; black it stood as night,

Fierce

Fierce as ten furies, terrible as hell,
And shook a dreadful dart. What seemed his head,
The likeness of a kingly crown had on."

In our apprehension, Shakespear, in this case, had a more prophetic spirit of anticipation than Milton, for certainly if Napoleone Buonaparte had sat for the following portrait, drawn by the hand of our bard, the likeness could not have been more correct or striking.

" A murderer, and a villain:
A slave, that is not twentieth part the tythe
Of *their* precedent Lord:—a vice of kings:
A cutpurse of the empire and the rule;
That from a shelf the precious diadem stole,
And put it in his pocket!"—

We cannot concur with our author in thinking that the death of Buonaparte will have no sensible effect on the stability of his empire. Nor do we conceive how, when he ascribes so much to the personal qualities of the founder of that empire, he can maintain that the absence of those qualities will not affect it. We admit, indeed, that every means has lately been adopted for giving it strength and stability; but so many millions are interested in its destruction, who are now restrained solely by the fear imposed by the sanguinary and ferocious spirit of the usurper from attempting it, that there are surely solid grounds for believing that his death will be productive of some material change.

Some means of defending the country against invasion are suggested, into the merits of which we cannot enter; though the plan for allowing an annuity to the families of such as might in such an event, fall in the field, however laudable, would, we fear, entail such an expence, as a country, already labouring under a vast weight of taxes, could not possibly bear. But nothing could exceed our astonishment on reading the passage, in which the author declares the sentiments of the Common-Council of the City of London to be almost decisive of the character of a minister. Alluding to the division in that body, on the motion for erecting a monument to Mr. Pitt; he observes: " This nearly poised division of sentiment on the merits of a minister, so soon after his decease, in a meeting composed of the principal municipal magistrates and delegates of the first commercial city in the world, who must be, supposed capable of well appreciating his title to praise, is deserving of notice." We could scarcely persuade ourselves that the author was serious. Does he really believe the Common-Council to be composed of competent judges of the merit of a statesman? If he do, his credulity, or his ignorance (we mean on this point) must be great indeed. Besides, does he not suppose that the accession of Mr. Pitt's political opponents to power must have had a material influence on the decision? We suspect he knows but little of city politics.

Without denying that the present administration possess a considerable portion of intellect, we must totally dissent from his position, that with the exception of Lord Hawkesbury, Lord Castlereagh, and Lord Melville, the late ministry possessed no talents; and that " they will soon relapse into oblivion: an oblivion which in all probability will never be disturbed." This is the dictum of party, and not the language of truth. The late debates in Parliament must surely have convinced the author of his error; for

for in them the whole country will admit the weight of ability was greatly on the side of opposition. But, we believe, no one, before him, ever ventured to question the talents of Mr. Canning. Those, too, of Mr. Percival have shone conspicuous. While, on the side of ministry, with the exceptions of Messrs. Fox, Sheridan, and Windham, what display of abilities have we witnessed?

After the remarks on *the press*, which we extracted above, our readers will probably partake of the surprize which we experienced on reading the following passage.

"But, I repeat it, if we desire to remain at peace with Buonaparte, *let us beware how we venture to treat him, with the same freedom as we do George the Third!* He is made of other materials, he cannot stand the severity of the press, whether it be applied to his person, his title, or his actions. He will resent with the *sword* the insults offered by the *pen*. Those who know the secret history of the infraction of the late peace, know that the asperity of our diurnal publications operated deeply to produce, and to accelerate the final rupture. They know that the heart of Napoleone was ulcerated, if I may so express myself, by the corrosives of the British press."

This is followed by an advice to the government, to discourage all attacks upon him; and a more notable scheme for destroying the freedom of the press, for poisoning the sources of history, and for depriving future ages of the most salutary lessons and the most wholesome examples, could scarcely be devised. If the nation will submit to be so silenced, its independence will not be worth defending, it will be fit only to become the tributary slave of Napoleone Buonaparte. How would our ancestors have blushed for the degeneracy of an Englishman who had broached such degrading sentiments as these! But this writer need have no apprehension on this score; the trial of Peltier may have convinced him that the meek, the mild, the benignant state-doctor Addington took care to provide a *permanent remedy* for all the evils resulting from the liberty of the press, if employed in a manner offensive to the sanguinary assassin of Jaffa. As nothing, however, which *we* could say on this subject, will be received in good part, or be secured against the charge of *prejudice*, we shall oppose to the author the sentiments of one of the most distinguished, and most honourable members of the *present* administration.

"The topic here alluded to (the character of Buonaparte) is so closely connected with this subject (the subject of peace with France), that the argument is evidently defective without it. An opinion indeed prevails, and is insisted upon by persons of much apparent wisdom and gravity, that any inquiry into the conduct and merits of the First Consul is unbecoming and improper; unsuited to the dignity of a great assembly, and incapable of being made conducive to any useful purpose. To many, however, it may seem that *just the contrary of this is the fact*; that in the history of the world, an instance can hardly be found of any one, whose personal qualities were so much a subject of general concern, and consequently so proper an object of inquiry; and that the occasion of all others, when such an inquiry must be most proper and necessary, was that in which we were preparing to sign a treaty of peace with the person in question, founded expressly upon our confidence in his character, and entrusting to the issue of our judgment in that respect, the whole of the interest, welfare, independence, and even existence of a great empire."

Mr. Windham's Speech on the Address on the Preliminaries of Peace, November 4, 1801. Appendix pages 93, 94. Mr. Windham then enters into a brief review of the atrocities committed by Buonaparte, duly characterizing them as he proceeds; and, adverting to his conduct in Egypt, justly represents it as a "singular combination of all that is great and all that is little,—all that is great in guilt and mischief, all that is little and despicable in the means of its execution." Let the author of these Thoughts attend to the following striking facts, which, we little thought, would ever again be applicable to *this* country.

"Such is the deplorable baseness of mankind, such the abject homage, which men are willing to pay to crimes attended with success, to wickedness united with power, that none of the acts committed at any time by the agents of the French Government, seem at all to have hurt their reception in the world, either collectively or individually. Their oppressions and cruelties excite no indignation; their low and scandalous frauds no contempt; their treacheries no distrust. In the case of the person here in question, you would swear, that his perfidies became him, and that, like one of Horace's mistresses, the more false and faithless he shewed himself, the greater was his train of followers among the admiring and adoring Governments of Europe."

———Tu, simul obligasti
Perfidum votis caput, enitescis
Pulchrior multò, juvenumque prodis
Publica cura.

"There is a perfect contest for the honour of being betrayed by him. The examples of those unfortunate and confiding countries, who have been already reduced and undone, produce no caution, inspire no terror.

"After the remark, made at the beginning of this note, it will hardly be asked, of what use is it to notice these facts? It is of some use to know betimes, the character of the person, *who is in a fair way of becoming our master*, and who, in fact, is so already, as far as relates to a perfect ascendency over those who direct our councils *. But it is of great use in another view, to point out to notice, such parts of the history of the First Consul, as those which we have been speaking of. It is of consequence to know, who it is that particular persons admire. If it be true, that a man is known by his company (*noscitur à socio*) it is equally true, that some judgment may be formed from those whom he extols and looks up to. What, it has been asked, must be the priest, where a monkey is the god? What must be the admirer, where the object of admiration is a person capable of such a proceeding as the pretended conversion to Mahomedanism? It will be admitted, probably, that this is not to come in, in the *heroic* part of the character. But I wish to know, with respect to a large class of his admirers, the enthusiasts of liberty, the asserters of rights, the respecters of the independence of nations, the abhorrers of war, *the lovers of peace* and pacific arts, the exploders of military fame,—what in their estimation *is* the heroic part, or what they would point out as the subject of *their* panegyric? Is it possible that *they* can hold out to us, as

* This was written during the administration of the sage Mr. Addington.—Rev.

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an object of admiration, the character of a man, whose merit, whatever its amount may be, must in kind be that of a soldier and a conqueror; whose sole occupation has been *war*, the foundation of whose fame and power was laid wholly upon military exploits; who unites in himself all that these persons profess to abhor in an Alexander and a Cæsar; who has been at once the conqueror of foreign nations, and the subverter of the liberties of his own? These things shew, beyond a doubt, what, for the greater part, these eulogiums on the character of the First Consul really are. They are, either *the base abject homage paid by the generality of mankind to successful crime;* or the insidious praises of men who, under the mask of liberty, patriotism, and respect for rights, are seeking to gratify their own spleen or ambition, and preparing the downfall of their country. Whatever credit may be due to him for military talents, and whatever certainly *is* due to him for decision, boldness, vigilance, address, capacity for great though wicked enterprizes, it will be difficult to account otherwise than is above done, for the sort of praises which we hear, and the quarters from which they come." Idem, ibid. p. 100, 102.

These are the sentiments of a genuine patriot; they had our hearty concurrence and applause at the time; and we have yet seen no reason to change our opinion. No subsequent occurrence, not the usurpation of the imperial dignity, the seizure of the iron crown of Lombardy, of the kingdom of Naples, and the Republic of Holland, no, nor yet, the cold-blooded midnight murder of the gallant DUKE D'ENGHIEN, has produced any alteration in our sentiments, either in respect of the character of Buonaparte, or of the propriety of calling the public attention to it on any proper occasion. Mr. Windham, we think, has fully confuted the author's opinion that such discussions can answer no good purpose. There are some other weak points in his pamphlet, which we have not room to expose. Among these are the strange notion, that Mr. Pitt's death is a favourable circumstance for the conclusion of an *honourable* and a *permanent* peace; and the advice to send some person as Ambassador to France who is *agreeable* to Buonaparte. We should be glad to see the man who would stand forward to claim the situation on such a recommendation! It is lamentable to witness this base, groveling, pusillanimous spirit! It makes us almost ashamed of our country.

A Letter to Mr. Cobbett, on his Opinions respecting the Slave Trade. By Thomas Clarke, A. M. Prebendary of Hereford. 8vo. Pr. 114. Hatchard. 1806.

WE have had frequent occasions to observe, that there is no public question of any magnitude, respecting which so great a difference of opinion prevails among public men, as that of the Slave Trade. The present author attacks Mr. Cobbett's notions on the subject, and particularly a letter to the Bishop of St. Asaph contained in the first volume of the Political Register. That letter was written by a respectable, and very intelligent man, the late Governor Franklyn, and was originally inserted in the True Briton. As far as we know, it has remained unanswered till the present moment. We still think, that there were much sound argument and much good sense in that letter, nor have the arguments of Mr. Clarke changed our opinion. We shall not enter into that part of his tract, which contains personal reflections on Mr. Cobbett, who is very well able to

fight his own battles. As to the main question, it is one of great difficulty, involving points of primary consequence. For our part, we fear that the abolition of the Slave Trade would be productive of the most pernicious effects on our commerce, without effecting the smallest melioration of the state of the native Africans. Mr. Clarke, though he calls for an immediate abolition, is an enemy to *emancipation*. If the former take place, the latter, we suspect, will follow of course, without the assistance of the British legislature.

POETRY.

Sir Christopher Hatton's Ghost; or, a Whisper to the Fair. By Simon Susurr, Esq. of the Middle Temple. 4to. Pp. 24. Murray. 1806.

THIS Jeu d'Esprit is intended to expose to merited ridicule the *fashionable modesty* of the fair sex; which, indeed, has become so remarkable, that, in public places, a *modest* woman is, generally speaking, only to be known by the *indecency*, and a *fille de joie* by the *decency*, of her appearance. What can be a fairer subject for satire? Notwithstanding this, however, it appears from the "Advertisement," that Simon Susurr, instigated by the Ghost of the old-fashioned Knight to compose this satire, never dared to commit it to the press, but absolutely fell a victim to his dread of offending the fair. The Editor seems to be almost equally alive to the same fears; and hence it is that he has been led to conceal his name. Here we confess, we think his *prudence* shines conspicuous, for he keeps up such a brisk fire on the whole of the female part of the fashionable world, or, in the miserable jargon of the fashionable prints, which set all sense and grammar at defiance,—on the whole group of *fashionables*; from the lovely Philosophers of the Royal Institution, to the fair votaries of Mary G. Wolstonecraft; from the *vegetable* followers of our modern Linnæus, to the *animal* disciples of the Godwinian School *, that, were he known, he never could expect to escape the rage of his numerous enemies.

The *ruffs* and *farthingales* of Queen Elizabeth's days are opposed to the *gossamery garbs* of the present day; and very uncharitable inferences are deduced, against the females of these times, from these opposite extremes of *dress* and *undress*. The modern fair, however, defend themselves with courage, if not with skill; and are said to have,—a privilege which they are very much accustomed to exercise—*the last word*. But the bard resists, and thus terminates the debate with this sage advice.

"Ah! do not then so wildly dare!
Ah! do not risk a sure defeat!—
My fair Philosophers, beware!
Dread, dread the power of *latent heat!*

* Mr. Godwin, we are happy to hear, has become a *good Catholic*, and goes to mass. This conversion is understood to have been accomplished by the beauty of his wife. We give due credit to the lady, and heartily congratulate the Pope on his acquisition. It is but fair to record such good deeds. They redound to the honour of the sex, whose influence, boundless as it is, cannot be exerted for a better purpose.

"You

" You should appear within the lists
Arm'd cap-a-pee, like quondam knight—
The war is not a war of fists,
Yet ye, like bruisers, strip to fight.

" The bruiser, stunn'd by many a blow,
Falls prostrate, but is seldom slain;
With *mortal* weapons man, your foe,
Strikes, and *you never rise again* !*

" Then quick! each outwork quick replace!
In maiden-armour take the field;
Nought *naked* save your conqu'ring face:
Who can resist it?—all must yield.

" But, if you raise, instead of rear,
Your bulwarks, I must, should you frown,
Just WHISPER in each female ear—
You mean not to defend the town."

Our limits will not allow us to extract any of the Notes to this Poem, which are replete with pointed satire, and with good sense. The bard lashes the follies of *learned ladies;* and ridicules some of the *new discoveries* of this enlightened age. There is *one*, however, which has escaped his notice; and we the rather wonder at the omission, as it is certainly one of the most extraordinary, and most important discoveries of these eventful times. We mean the discovery, that the best mode of instilling *Protestant principles* into the mind of a young female, is to entrust her religious education to a *Papist;* and that the safest guardian of her *morals* is an *adultress!* This greatly exceeds the discovery of a certain Mr. Forsyth, mentioned in a note, who contends, that " there is no *moral evil*, no *guilt* in the eyes of the Deity," for that man, being a mere *necessary* agent, cannot act otherwise than he does. This doctrine is not very *new*, but it is very *wicked*. It holds out every incitement to vice, and no encouragement to virtuous effort. There is, indeed, one *trifling* objection to its soundness and truth, namely—that it gives the lie to the page of Inspiration, to the whole body of the Scriptures. But what have modern philosophers to do with such antiquated writings as these. In *their* apprehension, they only operate as a check to the freedom of inquiry; and only incur belief from the *ignorant* and the *prejudiced*. We must, indeed, admit, that the authors of all these *new discoveries* are perfectly right in rejecting them as the criterion by which their merits are to be tried; for the wonderful efforts of modern wisdom, in this particular branch, will assuredly not stand the test of such an inquiry!

The Harper, and other Poems. By Quintin Frost, Esq. 12mo. Pr. 104. Longman and Co. London; Vidion, Maidstone. 1806.

THE longest of these poems, the Harper, in varied metre, has much merit, as, indeed, have many of the smaller pieces. One *essential* quality

* ' And sets, like stars that fall, to rise no more.'

in a poet, *feeling*, the author evidently possesses; it is abundantly displayed in most of his *amatory* effusions; nor is he at all destitute of genius, judgment, or taste. The following epigram, addressed to an *unemployed Barrister*, is *well pointed*, and the point, we believe, is new also.

" If, to reward them for their various evil,
All lawyers go hereafter to the devil,
So little mischief dost thou from the laws,
Thou'lt surely go below *without a cause*."

A Tribute to the Memory of the Right Honourable William Pitt, with an Essay on his Character and Endowments. By Thomas Shirley. *Dedicated, by Permission, to the Right Honourable Lord Hawkesbury, &c. &c.* 8vo. Pp. 40. Stockdale. 1806.

IF goodness of intention be ever an available excuse for defect in execution, it certainly must be admitted in such a case as the present. For it is not to be wondered at, that a writer who attempts, in a few pages, to delineate the character and endowments of such a personage as the late Mr. Pitt, should fail in his endeavour. Mr. Shirley, however, is entitled to praise for his sentiments, which are unequivocally good. His poetry, too, is much superior to his prose, as the following specimen will demonstrate.

" When the fiend Treason spread her sable wing,
And mark'd Rome's traitors secretly combine,
Their country's hope to sudden wreck to bring,
She sought the gloomy breast of Catiline.

" He felt her venom quick through every part;
He gave his spirit to her stern controul;
He felt the fury swell his vengeful heart,
And brooding Malice swell his secret soul.

" Treason, tho' cloth'd in darkest shades of night,
Shunn'd, like nocturnal birds, th' approach of day;
But god-like Tully dragg'd the fiend to light,
And by his wisdom, crush'd Sedition's sway.

" In Albion, thus, fell Treason's serpent tongue
Infus'd its venom thro' the giddy crowd;
With fraudful art reduc'd the unwary young,
While Faction's voice grew impudent and loud.

" Who sav'd great Albion in that dreadful hour?
When Treason, fed* by Gallia, hover'd nigh;
When swift Destruction threaten'd lawful Pow'r,
As the blue lightnings pierce the troubled sky.

* * * * * * * *

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* Quere, *feed?*—Rev.

" Who

" Who sav'd his country? who her greatest friend?
The mighty champion of his native land,
Who, Heav'n directed, for that glorious end,
Oppos'd black Treason with a mighty hand?

" 'Twas Pitt! who, great of soul, and brave as great,
Quench'd, by his fortitude, the bursting blaze;
Preserv'd the best of Kings, the laws, the state,
And pierc'd the black recess of Faction's maze.

" While Gratitude shall live, or stars shall shine;
While life shall flourish, or wide oceans roll,
An empire's tribute, Pitt, is justly thine,
And Fame shall sound thy praise from pole to pole."

The British Tully is here plainly displayed; but the bard has foreborne to pourtray the British Catiline.

MISCELLANIES.

A Letter to a Friend, occasioned by the Death of the late Right Honourable William Pitt. 8vo. Pp. 24. Hatchard. 1806.

THE writer of this Letter is evidently a pious man, who seeks to convince Ministers that, in governing the kingdom, they should not court the favour of *man*, but seek to do that which is pleasing to *God*. This is, certainly, most true in the abstract; but he presses the point too far, and seems to think, that the Minister who conscientiously makes the welfare of his country the primary object of his pursuits, is guilty of sin, and does that which is offensive to the Almighty. At least so we understand him to mean, in the following passage:

" With what distinctness does he perceive that, were a Country to be saved by exertions, neither produced by, nor directed by the love of God, stupendous as they might be in their own magnitude, and in the evidence which they carried with them of zeal, intelligence and wisdom, in the sight of God they would be not only *unavailing*, but *offensive*; that should the most extraordinary benefits be conferred on mankind, by labours founded on the desire of fame, or of any other earthly attainment which they sought, and would 'have no reward from our Father who is in heaven.'"

We take leave to ask the author, whether if a Minister who, in all respects, leads a good and Christian *life*, adopt means for the defence of his Country, which are perfectly consistent with justice, and in no respect contrary to the precepts or known will of the Deity, although the *love of God* may not have been his *motive* for the adoption of such means, his conduct can be considered as *offensive* to God? We should wish to know what part of the Gospel can be brought in support of a supposition which appears to us monstrous in itself, and repugnant to that *charity* which Christ preached and practised. Surely the *desire of fame*, if sought

to be gratified only by promoting the welfare of, and conferring *the most extraordinary benefits* on, mankind, is by no means incompatible with *the love of God!* Either the author has not clearly expressed his meaning, or he meant that which he is utterly unable to justify.

A Synoptical Compendium of British Botany (from the Class Monandria to Polygamia inclusive); arranged after the Linnean System. Containing the essential Characters of the Genera, the specific Characters, English Names, Places of Growth, Soil, and Situation; Colour of the Flowers, Times of Flowering, Duration, and Reference to Figures. By John Galpine, A.L.S. Pp. 184. 12mo. Bagster. 10s. 6d. Boards. 1806.

THIS is an abridged translation of Dr. Smith's work, and contains only a tabular view of 407 genera. What use such an imperfect epitome can be to the young student of botany, we are at a loss to conceive, as he will not find any description of the greater part of those flowers which are more common in our gardens, than those indigenous to the country.—That a complete system, thus reduced to tables in the manner here adopted, would have been very useful, we can readily believe, particularly as the tables are neatly executed; but that only a part of such vegetables as are natives of Britain, must be of little service either to the young or experienced botanist, we can as easily determine. Nor do we think that a compendium of *undefined* terms can ever be useful to young students; and the more experienced will always look on it with contempt. Botanical science, we fear, will be little advanced by the well-meant labours of this Linnean Associate, who may perhaps find himself better pleased with his work than with the returns of publication.

REVIEWERS REVIEWED.

FABER'S DISSERTATION ON THE 1260 YEARS—AND THE MONTHLY REVIEW.

SIR, *Stockton-upon-Tees, June 4, 1806.*

I HAVE been favoured with a sight of the opinion entertained of my *Dissertation on the 1260 Years*, by the Editor of the *Monthly Review*; and shall feel myself much obliged to you to insert, in *The Anti-Jacobin Review*, the following remarks upon it.

Speaking of the various attempts to elucidate the Prophecies of Daniel and St. John, this person observes:—"How many have ventured to interpret the hieroglyphic symbols contained in these books, and to assign the fulfilment of the prophecies which they contain, to particular periods and events; and how remarkably have their expectations been falsified by the mere progress of time, and their lofty speculations been shewn to be the mere figments of opinion! Numbers of learned men have engaged in this daring enterprize; and, when we advert to the wild fancies which they have promulgated, we know not whether we should wonder most at their

their presumption, or at their weakness. Hitherto all attempts appear to have completely failed; and nothing that was in the least degree satisfactory to the man of sense and sound judgment has been produced *."

Unless I quite mistake the import of this decisive passage, *all* commentators on Daniel and St. John are condemned in the lump; *every* attempt appears to have *completely* failed; and *nothing* has been produced *at all* satisfactory to a man of sense and sound judgment, by which, I suppose, the Editor means himself. Thus are we modestly required to give up *in toto*, as wholly abhorrent even from common sense, the writings of the venerable Mede, the illustrious Sir Isaac Newton, the cautious and accurate Bishop Newton, and *all others* who have written on the same subject, merely because the Editor of *The Monthly Review* assures us, that *he* disapproves of them, and "knows not whether we should wonder most at their presumption, or at their weakness." As for the *reasons* why their commentaries are to be thus unceremoniously discarded, as having "*completely* failed," I cannot discover that he gives any beyond his own *fiat*, except, indeed, the following one, namely, "that *every* interpretation, which *every one* of them has advanced, is to be set aside, because *some* of them have been mistaken in assigning the proper date to *the* 1260 *years*." Thus the event has shewn that Mede was mistaken in *his* date; and, *therefore*, according to the stupendous logic of this Editor, not only all *his* interpretations must be given up, but likewise all those of Bishop Newton, whom the event has *not* yet shewn to be mistaken in his date. Unless, however, I greatly err, neither Mede, nor Newton, nor myself, nor any other commentator, ever thought of *peremptorily asserting* that *the* 1260 *years* must *necessarily* be dated from such or such a period: we merely pitched upon that which respectively appeared to us the most *probable*. But, why every interpretation must "appear to have *completely* failed," because a commentator is mistaken in a date, I possess not critical acumen enough to discover. A man, for instance, may be perfectly right in pronouncing that *the little horn of Daniel's fourth beast* is *the Papacy*, and perfectly wrong in assigning the date of *that period* during which the Saints are to be given into its hand. His error in the *latter* point will not prove him wrong in his opinion on the *former* point; and still less can we allow, that the error in question will prove him wrong in his interpretation of *other* prophecies no way connected with *the* 1260 *years*.—The Editor, however, seems to have taken up the crude fancy, that, because *some* commentators have been mistaken in dating this period, therefore "*all* attempts to elucidate the prophecies of Daniel and St. John, appear to have *completely* failed:" in other words (for a single application of this argument will suffice), Mr. Mede has erred in dating *the* 1260 *years*: therefore not only he, but likewise Sir Isaac and Bishop Newton, and all other commentators who have written on the subject, have erred in supposing *the four beasts*, in Dan. vii. to symbolize *the four empires*: for, if they have *not* erred in thus interpreting *the four beasts*, their attempts have *not* "completely failed." Whatever opinion the Editor may entertain of commentators, I fear such reasoning as this will not be "in the least degree satisfactory to the man of sense and sound

* Monthly Review, May, 1806, page 72.

judgment,"

judgment," unless, indeed, his sense and his judgment resemble those of the contriver of this argument.

But, because "hitherto *all* attempts appear to have *completely* failed," are we to conclude that Daniel and St. John are inexplicable? *By no means*, says the Editor. How then are we to attain to a right understanding of them? He assures us, that he has "often endeavoured to repress this extravagance, this quixotism of exposition, this unwarrantable liberty of interpretation;" and he now with a solemn visage recommends every attempt to be laid aside, until when? why until some highly favoured person shall receive *inspiration from above* for that purpose; for his "wonder is, that Mr. Faber should not have doubted his incapacity, unless he had received *some express illumination for the purpose*." This project of the ingenious Editor, that no man is to undertake to explain the mysteries of prophecy, "without *a new light from the fountain of inspiration*," will, to be sure, clip the wings of many a soaring commentator, both ancient and modern; and, whatever other merit it may have, it certainly possesses that of *genuine originality*. Till now I had always understood, that prophecies were *revealed* by *divine inspiration*; but that they were to be *explained* by *human diligence and observation*, by *the study of history*, and by *comparings things that have come to pass, with things foretold*. The Editor of *The Monthly Review*, however, assures us (and who shall dispute the assertion of a man, who requires us to give up every commentator, because *he*, the said Editor, declares that we *ought* to do so?) that this is quite a mistake, and that prophecy must not only be *revealed* by divine inspiration, but must be *expounded* by divine inspiration likewise. I had supposed, that St. John's exhortation, to read and hear the words of his prophecy *, was a sufficient sanction, even for an *uninspired* man to attempt to understand it; more especially since I could find no promise of *commentatorial inspiration*, either in the Apocalypse, or in Daniel; and I believe all my predecessors supposed the same. *A new light*, however, is now thrown on the requisite accomplishments of an expositor; and it is to be hoped that posterity will profit by the discovery of the sagacious Editor.

He fears, that "Christians of foreign communions will be offended at the presumptuous ground which we take;" and thinks, that "we impeach both our judgment and *liberality*," (the more the pity) in confining the prophecies of Daniel and St. John as we do, instead of taking in America, and China, and Hindostan. That *the Papists* will be offended, I doubt not; but is the Editor so grossly ignorant of the subject on which he so peremptorily gives his opinion, as to require to be told, that there are commentators on those prophecies among foreign Protestants, who apply them much in the same manner as our English commentators do? China, and America, and Hindostan, however, ought *surely* not to be *illiberally* excluded, so as "to obtain *no* notice among the hieroglyphic symbols." Alas! what would Mede, and the two Newtons, have thought of such a critic?

He contends, that *days* in prophecy do not denote *years*, and is dissatisfied with the texts to which I refer. Will he be better pleased with

* Rev. i. 3.

Daniel's

Daniel's prophecy of *the* 70 *weeks:* which, if understood to speak of *mere natural weeks*, never was accomplished; but, if understood to speak of *prophetic weeks*, or 490 *years*, was fully accomplished? Or, if this will not do, will he be satisfied that *the ten days* of persecution of the Church of Smyrna mean *ten years**? He seems almost to fancy that *I* was the inventor of this mode of interpreting *the prophetic days*, if I may judge by his "exclamations of astonishment;" otherwise why should he be so marvellously surprized at my adopting the opinion of, I believe, *all* my Protestant predecessors? This shews how admirably calculated he is to review a work on prophecy. Mere ignorance, however, I can pardon; and even his petulant declaration, that our Medes and our Newtons have produced nothing "in the least degree satisfactory to the man of sense and sound judgment," I can look over: but the contemptuous levity with which he speaks of "the *strange* hieroglyphics of Daniel, and the *still stranger* which occur in the Apocalypse," deserves and will receive the reprobation of every believer.

In denying various assumptions of mine, as he calls them, he denies *for the most part*, perhaps, indeed, *unconsciously* (happy ignorance!) not *my* assumptions, but those of all who have written on the subject. If, however, it be "a mere *gratis dictum* (a single instance will suffice), that *the feet of the image branching out into ten toes, the fourth beast with ten horns*, and *the apocalyptic beast with seven heads and ten horns*, are designed to symbolize *the same power;* if, I say, this be considered as a mere unwarranted assumption, we must indeed take the Editor's advice, and wait for inspiration. Nevertheless I can tell him, that men, whose judgment *some* will be perversely inclined to prefer to that even of the Monthly Reviewer, Mede, Sir Isaac Newton, and Bishop Newton, not to mention many others, have considered this point to be so indisputable as to require no proof.

He says, that I maintain *the year* 1866, which is probably the last year of *the* 1260 *years*, to be the first year of *the Millennium*. I maintain no such thing. On the contrary, I stated on the authority of Daniel, that 75 *years* would elapse between the end of *the* 1260 *years*, and the commencement of *the Millennium*. Neither did I assert that *Popery* and *Mohammedanism* would be destroyed; or that Palestine would again be occupied by *the Jews* in that year. I only stated, that, *if I were right* in my date of *the* 1260 *years*, which I presumed not *positively* to say that I was, *the seventh vial* would be poured out in that year, *the restoration of the Jews* would commence, and the series of events predicted in Dan. xi. 40—45, would begin to be accomplished. Judgment will then only *go forth* against the enemies of God: a considerable space of time, probably 30 *years*, will elapse before it is *finally executed*, and before the tribe of Judah is *completely restored*.

He says, that "in the unfigurative parts of the New Testament the restoration of the Jews is not mentioned, and *it is not easy to perceive what good effect it would be calculated to produce*. St. Paul states, that the blindness which has befallen "them is to be removed; but he does not intimate that, on their embracing Christianity, they are to be reinstated in

* Rev. ii. 10.

the

the possession of Palestine." What is the purport of this profound remark? Does it originate in *ignorance*, or in *partial infidelity?* Is the Editor to be told, that *the restoration of the Jews* is predicted, repeatedly predicted, by almost every one of the ancient Prophets? And does he arrogantly presume to assert, that "it is not easy to perceive what good effect predictions of this nature would be calculated to produce," when it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit that there should be *more predictions* relative to *the restoration of the house of Israel*, than perhaps to *any other subject whatsoever?* Nay, is he ignorant that our Lord *himself* has specially predicted *the restoration of the Jews?* He declared, that "they should be led away captive into all nations, and that Jerusalem should be trodden down of the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles be fulfilled."—Hence it has usually been concluded, that, when the times of the Gentiles *were* fulfilled (whatever might be the precise import of the phrase), the Jews would *cease* to be led away captive into all nations, and Jerusalem would *cease* to be trodden down of the Gentiles. Our Lord then thought proper, in his infinite wisdom, to promise that the Jews *should* be restored; but the Editor of *The Monthly Review* thinks, that "it is not easy to perceive what good effect any prediction of this event would be calculated to produce."

He thinks, that my supposition, that *the apocalyptic woman clothed with the sun, denotes the church clothed with the righteousness of Christ*, is worthy of Swedenborg. As I am not acquainted with the writings of that gentleman, I know not his plan of interpretation. Had the Editor been as well acquainted with the Commentaries of Mede, Newton, and other valuable expositors, as he appears to be with those of Baron Swedenborg, he would have known that they interpret this symbol in *the very manner* which he takes upon himself to reprobate. Indeed, when those eminent men are placed in the one scale, and the Editor of *The Monthly Review* in the other, one is at a loss whether most to admire, his portentous ignorance, or his ludicrous pertness.

Your readers, Sir, will now be able to form a tolerable estimate of the knowledge which this writer possesses of the subject on which he has thought proper to deliver his opinion. Had he read a little more before he wrote, it might at least have taught him more caution, if not more diffidence.

I have the honour to be, your obedient humble servant,

G. S. FABER.

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR OF THE COMPANION TO THE GUIDE, AND THE GUIDE TO THE COMPANION; AND ALSO OF HIGGENBROCIUS, BY WAY OF APPENDIX TO THOSE TWO PUBLICATIONS, NOW UNITED IN ONE SMALL VOLUME.

SIR,

IN common with many friends of the University of Oxford, I rejoiced at the rumour of your new edition of the Guide to the Companion. The rude hand of innovation has made havoc of many venerable remains of antiquity, and were poor Thomas Hearne now alive, it would almost break

break his heart to see not even a vestige of the East-gate, the Old Conduit, Bocardo and the Turl, with a new bridge over the Charwell; though he would feel some consolation in finding that in narrowness, it bears a close resemblance to the old one.

Though wisdom does not preside in King's College, yet the same salutary instructions are given, and there is little danger of its ever wanting students. Other colleges are compared to inns, and have their ebbs and flows, but this is subject to no such inconvenience; degrees are taken from it several times a year*. The travelling fellows are far more numerous, and in proportion to their number, much less expensive than Dr. Radcliffe's. The length of their voyage, occasioned by the distance of their destination, makes them acquainted with various climates, and the duration of their residence abroad is friendly to the acquisition of knowledge. In their intercourse with the people among whom they are destined to sojourn, they discover new kinds of regimen, new diseases, and new cures. Some of them, indeed, have died of *suffocation*, and others were in the most imminent danger.

That the coffee-houses, as libraries, are not in the same flourishing state now as they were formerly, we need not lament, since the circulating libraries abundantly supply the defect. One cannot but deplore that Radcliffe's Library, though opened above half a century ago with so much parade, is still a mere something to stare at. It is reported, that a proposal was once made to deposit there all the manuscripts in the University, public and private. Bodies of men and individuals feel a strange propensity to retain what is given or bequeathed to them. There is an appropriation of this magnificent building, which will not interfere with the admission of Lady Pomfret's Statutes, and to which no friend of sound sense and pure morality can object. I would there deposit all the modern plays, farces and romances, for without due care most of them will sink into oblivion. Even the German plays, however Mr. Sheridan and Co. may *do them in* English, are very much on the decline; and the farces, including the words of speaking pantomimes, have but their hour. As to novels and romances, all the circulating libraries should, like the Company of Stationers, be compelled by Act of Parliament to send copies of their solid, invaluable publications, *in usum studiosæ juventutis*.

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* Perhaps the readers may not be displeased with the following extract from the Life of Jonathan Wild.

"Certain it is, that whatever this accident was, it determined our hero's father to send his son immediately abroad for seven years; and, what may seem somewhat remarkable, to his Majesty's plantations in America, that part of the world being, as he said, freer from vice than the courts and cities of Europe, and consequently less dangerous to corrupt a young man's morals. And, as for the advantages, the old gentleman thought they were equal to those attained in the politer climates; for travelling, he said, was travelling in one part of the world as well as in another; it consisted in being such a time from home, and in traversing so many leagues, and appealed to experience whether most of our travellers in France and Italy did not prove at their return, that they might have been sent as profitably to Norway or Greenland.

It is superfluous to expatiate on the extensive utility of such reading. To remove the prejudices of education, to create a thorough contempt of musty rules of conduct, to correct that taste which is formed from the writings of Aristotle, Longinus, Cicero, and Quintilian among the ancients; Addison, Pope, Swift, and innumerable others among the moderns, are very obvious and prominent advantages. Our young students, instead of carrying into the country that classical, logical, ethical, mathematical, scientifical barbarism, which rendered them so *queer* in company, and so far inferior to the smart heroes of the army and navy, will now learn all the soft language of endearment, will learn to besiege a lady with the skill of the most experienced, and practise all the arts of elopement with secrecy, dexterity and dispatch, vindicating and enforcing the natural liberty of both sexes. To the eminent authors now alluded to, it has been sometimes objected, that they place their heroes and heroines in situations unknown in common life; but why should not man aspire after improvement, and refine upon those who have gone before him?—What if Mr. G. put Caleb Williams in difficulties, which no subject of these realms can experience. Is not this proof of a fertile invention?—If Shakespeare be praised for creating a set of beings of his own imagination, why may not real characters be placed in circumstances unknown in the annals of the world?

We read much of Δεινοτης, that is, the art of frightening and of being frightened. A hearer, or reader of feeling, is to imagine the furies at his elbow; and Cicero and Quintilian allow, that to excite terror some one may be raised from the dead. But all which has been said and done under this awful head, vanishes like a bubble before the Mysteries of Udolpho.

As the pursuit of similar studies is the cement of friendship, so it may also prove the cement of love: and how pleasing will it be when the two sexes meet, that, though separated in situation, they have been united in studies; and that the academical libraries have the same *contents* with the toilette? The pleasure of comparing notes and sensations will soon establish the *idem velle*, and the *idem nolle*, so essential to a future indissoluble union. In order that males and females may oftener meet together, the happy custom now prevails of leaving Oxford in every vacation, so that at Christmas and Easter it is entirely empty. No one need reside more than seven or eight weeks at one time, and by pricking *æger* he may avoid lectures and exercises, in order to study his favourite authors. The public examinations will be an encroachment upon his natural liberty, till the taste of the senior part of the University be improved, till by a little management certain gentlemen of qualmish consciences can be voted off. I hope to see the time when the *Examinands* will carry up celebrated novels, as they now carry Grotius, or any other antiquated author; and that the Novelliist's Magazine will be soon reprinted.

How much the axis in Peritrochio is put in motion, I cannot exactly learn, but it is much to be lamented that there is no riding-school.—Many of the senior members of the University have, at all times, been in danger from the want of such an accommodation; and one, like *lucus a non lucendo*, gained the appellation of *The Jockey*. A feeble attempt was made about thirty years ago, but the Vice-Chancellor was nervous and timorous, and detested the very semblance of innovation. It is wonderful

wonderful that they who retain a classical mania should not attend to one of their favourite poets, who complained in his day, that *a young gentleman could not stick upon a horse.*

That the doctrine of the Skrew, of Fluids and Syphons, continues to be daily and duly illustrated, is matter of real consolation. Thus the dryness of morning studies is corrected, and though the experiments are become more than doubly expensive, yet the sacrifice of a few pounds is far outbalanced by the salubrity of a frequent repetition; and, in order that the various classes may feel a laudable emulation, I would recommend to their perusal two papers in the World, written by Lord Chesterfield of dry memory, who has shewn the infinite superiority of modern symposiacks over the ancient, and has drawn characters which every good fellow must be happy to imitate. None of them must expect to arrive at the maturity he has depicted all at once. The rich face, the generous gout, the Falstaff paunch, are not acquired without labour and expence, and it is dangerous to be too sanguine and too rapid; and, in order that the experiments may be continued without interruption, no chapel bell should be rung after dinner. The bottle-stands should contain this motto:

Accedat fervor capiti numerusque lucernis.

And then some expence will be saved, and two candles will serve instead of four.

To those who feel a prepossession for Roman customs, especially such as were a little subsequent to the Augustan age, it will be satisfactory to find, that Sandwiches and patés will answer to their prandia, our dinners to their suppers, and that the festivity may be prolonged to the time:

Quo signa duces & castra movebant.

As to the statute against keeping horses, so requisite for health and exercise, its mischievous effects are entirely done away, by a transfer of those useful animals to the stable-keepers, an expedient obviously suggested by the transfer of landed property, for the purpose of qualifying poor gentlemen to enrich themselves by seats in the House of Commons.

So many compendia of science issue daily from the press, that the path is made smooth and easy. Duncan in Logic, and Langbaine in Ethics, will be found quite sufficient; and a complete knowledge of modern publications may be gained from magazines and reviews; and, lest the rising generation should contract a puerile affection for the religion and constitution of the country, they are requested to read Aikin's Annual Review, The New Annual Register, some articles in Rees's Cyclopædia, and several others, particularly The Monthly Magazine. In this respect, for fifty years, the proprietor of The Monthly Review was *instar omnium*, a host in himself, insomuch that an odd creature of the old school practised the rule of contraries, and always bought what he and Co. condemned.

As for the gentlemen intended for the Church, they may also abridge their studies, and instead of heaping folio upon folio, or seeking after Hebrew roots, "which flourish most in barren ground," instead of toiling through bodies of divinity, the names of which are sufficient to create a tremor, they may take a few elementary books; and, as to sermons, let them form themselves upon the models of Sterne, Duché, and Septimus Hodson.

If they should delight in the terrific, they may apply to John Bunyan and others,

others, who have depicted the torments of hell. Some may perhaps prefer Westley, Whitfield, Cadogan, Milner, and Attorney Patrick *, with single sermons written on different occasions, and the compositions of the Vicar of St. Mary's, in Leicester, who, in a system lately published, prohibits the reading of newspapers on a Sunday.

Students in law will be consoled in the persuasion that the branches of academical knowledge, which the learned commentator has stated as so useful to them, may be cultivated in a short time, and with infinite facility. The same easy method may be pursued in their legal studies; and whenever abstracts and short digests can be purchased, it were folly to wade through tedious treatises, and verbose acts of parliament. Every Man his Own Lawyer is an excellent book; and we may hope that in a few generations, Westminster-Hall will only serve to furnish a retreat in wet weather, and stalls for fruit-women and pedlars.

A similar felicity of abridging labour may also attend the medical profession. By the aid of Buchan and a few others any one may learn to practise; and Solomon and Brodum have nearly thrust out Boerhaave, Van Swieten, Gregory, Cullen, and all their tasteless admirers. We are now and then told that a bone-setter does more harm than a bone-breaker; but, after the panegyrics upon the digitalis and arsenic, we shall easily discover that the best way to cure is to poison.

In stating the various possible improvements, I am far from assuming the character of a dictator: but as many duplicates of the invaluable novels and romances of the day will be wanted, I have no doubt that colleges and individuals will advance large sums, as was heretofore done in the case of the Penellian Library, many of the rare editions of which are exhibited for shew, and will never come into general use. A general but copious selection may be printed in an uniform size, and the appellation of Oxford novels will be as familiar as that of Oxford divinity. The Delegates of the Press will no longer find themselves embarrassed, and their finances exhausted by printing Oriental books, or crabbed classics: but a rapid sale will enrich their treasures, and establish their reputation among all classes of readers, even the very domestics of great or little families, who follow their masters and mistresses throughout *passibus æquis*. As for the Vice-Chancellor's IMPRIMATUR, it always appeared to me an idle ceremony. In giving sanction to some novels, he might feel an awkward squeamishness which some even of the more delicate sex are said to be quit of. By connivance any thing may be done. Mr. Jackson once printed some *Terræ Filii*, under the name of *De Hondt*.

With the liberal sciences should be united dancing, fencing and tactics. These should be learnt immediately after matriculation, while the limbs

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* This gentleman, whose talents were too brilliant for the secondary rank of the legal profession, became a burning and a shining light in the church, but his coruscations at Morden College were as insupportable as a view of the noon-day sun. His post meridian beams shone less intensely in Shoreditch Church, and only shone once a fortnight. Mr. Blake was compelled to admit this luminary, that he might not be prosecuted for non-residence. Mr. Howell may publish this in the next edition of his Letter to Mr. Baron Maseres.

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are supple and pliant, and without a knowledge of them no degree should be conferred. The academies in and about London give principal attention to these important branches of education; and one of the conductors, in my hearing, spoke contemptibly of all teachers who busied themselves in the cultivation of the *minds* of their pupils. Such strange prejudices are now wearing off; and many young men toil not in learning either composition or quantity, well knowing that all seeming deficiencies are richly compensated by an elegant exterior, by an address totally devoid of unmanly diffidence. Spouting in public, and performing in private theatricals, have produced *pregnant* advantages; and, though not very young, I hope to see each College furnishing its dramatic performances with as much regularity as is now shewn in furnishing disputants and preachers.

As to the study of music, and practice on musical instruments, little improvement can be proposed, because the students of the University, in general, have always shewn uncommon zeal in such pursuits. The difficulty which many had to combat rendered their diligence and perseverance more meritorious, though they displeased some book-worms, and compelled them to change their apartments. I remember that one obstinate reader was driven away by the stamping, as well as fiddling of the inhabitant above him. To play God Save the King, and Foot's Minuet, in some deserved no small degree of commendation, as it was the result of long and laborious practice; and a profound knowledge thus acquired will enable Canons and Prebendaries to superintend and improve the choral service of their respective cathedrals. Let it also be considered, to what a wretched condition the teachers on various instruments must be reduced, if none were to be taught but those who are able rapidly to learn. Besides, be it said in defiance of Lord Chesterfield, the modest demeanour, the attic conversation, and the brilliant wit of professed musicians, are passed into a proverb, and will eminently improve the academical symposiacks.

I am, Sir, yours,

PHILOSEMNUS.

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE EDINBURGH CONTROVERSY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ANTI-JACOBIN REVIEW.

SIR,

WHEN I pointed out to you the partiality of your review of Mr. Professor Stewart's *Short Statement of Facts, &c.* and the dereliction of principle which that article seemed to betray, I did not expect or wish you to run from one extreme to another, or to pour a torrent of blackguard abuse, in one article, on the man whom you had unduly praised in another.

ther. I wished you to take a candid and comprehensive review of the whole Controversy between the Ministers of Edinburgh and certain Professors in their University; to state the faults of both parties; and to bestow praise wheresoever praise may be due. Instead of this, you have given us reviews, or what you wish to pass for reviews, of *three pamphlets* in that Controversy, in which you talk of *poor* Stewart being in danger of being *laughed at* by his own pupils; in which you seem to accuse him, and Playfair, and Leslie, of *atheism*; and in which you have certainly, though, I am perfectly aware, unintentionally, taught the *first principles* of atheism yourself.

But I beg your Reviewer's pardon. He has, indeed, taught nothing; for such a cluster of unmeaning words, and unharmonious sentences, was, I believe, never before brought together, as that which disgraces the Anti-Jacobin for April, from page 399 to page 411. Stewart, through the whole of this Controversy, has written in a style of arrogance and self-sufficiency, which becomes no man; and which has given too much reason to suspect, that he wishes to tear the laurels from the brow of his and my old master, Dr. Reid, and twine them round his own: but Stewart is not a man at whom any pupil, not a fool, will ever be disposed to *laugh*. He has erred, and, I think, erred widely, in attempting to apologize for the language of Leslie's famous note, to which the Ministers of Edinburgh justly objected; but had he restrained his passion and party-spirit so far, as only to censure these gentlemen for their opposition to his friend, *after that language was explained*, or retracted, his conduct would have deserved all the praise that has been bestowed upon it by his fondest admirers, provided he had treated his opponents as his equals, which they certainly are in every sense of the word; and candidly allowed, that the Ministers of Edinburgh had a right to demand from Mr. Leslie an explanation of language, which all must allow to be inaccurate.

In this point of view, Mr. Playfair's conduct has been much more correct than Mr. Stewart's. If my memory does not deceive me (for I have not his pamphlet at hand), he admits, that it became his friend to write such a letter as that which he sent to the Professor of Divinity; and adds, that, if he had been consulted, he would have advised such a measure; though he would certainly have dissuaded Mr. Leslie from making any farther concession. Had I been consulted on the same subject, I would certainly have given a similar advice. Mr. Playfair's Letter is, indeed, a masterly performance, and exhibits, beyond a doubt, the best specimen of the *polemical style*, that is to be found on either side of this celebrated Controversy. It is, however, far from unexceptionable, as you will readily perceive by candidly comparing it with Dr. Inglis's Reply.

The conduct of the Ministers of Edinburgh was, on the other hand, not only blameless, but in the highest degree praiseworthy, in the steps which they *first* took to oppose the appointment of Mr. Leslie to a Professorship in their University. They have solemnly denied that they were influenced by any other motive than a regard for the interests of religion; and as nothing like a proof has been brought of that combination into which they were accused, by the two Professors, of having entered, no man has a right to question the purity of their motives. They are to blame only for not having stopt their proceedings when they had accomplished all which they could reasonably demand. Yet the writings of Messrs.

Stewart

Stewart and Playfair have furnished, even for their subsequent conduct, an apology, which nothing else, I conceive, could have furnished; as those writings have certainly raised in my mind, and in the minds of many others, suspicions which, when I last wrote to you, we did not entertain. If Mr. Stewart was influenced by no other motives than a love of justice, and a regard for the interests of science, why did he continue his hostility to the Ministers of Edinburgh, after both those objects had been obtained by the decision of the General Assembly of the Church? In particular, why did he treat with insolence and scorn, the unoffending Principal of his College? The language of his last Postscript is, indeed, a singular ebullition of passion, when it is considered as the language of a profound philosopher, who treats with great coolness and moderation, Hume, and D'Alembert, and Condorcet, and all the other abettors of atheism!

Let me therefore request you, Sir, once more, to read with attention the third edition of Stewart's *Short Statement of Facts*; the *Examination of Mr. Dugald Stewart's Pamphlet*, believed to be by Dr. Inglis; the *Postscript to Mr. Stewart's Short Statement of Facts*; Playfair's *Letter to the Author of the Examination of the Short Statement of Facts*; Inglis's *Reply to Playfair's Letter, &c.*; and *Remarks on certain Passages of an Examination of Mr. Dugald Stewart's Pamphlet*, by Dr. Brown, Principal of Marischal College, in this University. Other pamphlets have been published on both sides of this Controversy; but these are sufficient to give a correct view of the principles and projects of the leaders of the two parties; whilst the two masterly tracts by Dr. Inglis prove, to the conviction of all but party-men, that there were more than grounds for alarm; and that, in metaphysical discussion, the Ministers of Edinburgh are, at least, a match for the Professors in the University. I must request, however, that the review of this highly-important Controversy be written by an Englishman; and if the reviewer would subscribe his name to it, he would render it of more value, as well as prevent the different cabals in Edinburgh from calumniating innocent men, on whom they choose to cast their suspicions.

I say this, because when I was in Edinburgh the other week, attending the General Assembly, I heard my last letter given to two different men of different professions, with neither of whom have I the pleasure of being acquainted. One of them has, indeed, entered warmly into the dispute, and taken, I believe, a very decided part in it; but the other, there is reason to suspect, laughs at both parties; and hopes that, by their violence, they will injure the Church of Scotland. Your coadjutors in support of the constitution, the British Critics, have given a very impartial view of *part* of this Controversy; but they have done it with a feebleness characteristic of a journal which is conducted by men who seem fearful to offend. I do not wish you to offend any men, or any party, wantonly; but I do hope to see you render impartial justice, regardless of popular names and party prejudices. I am perfectly aware of the little reverence that you profess for the constitution and doctrine of the Church of Scotland; but I am aware, likewise, that you have pledged yourself* to resist

* Preface to the first volume of the Anti-Jacobin Review.

every effort to effect her subversion; and no efforts to that purpose are more to be dreaded than such controversies as that under present consideration.

I am, Sir,

Aberdeen, June 9, 1806. A LOOKER-ON.

THE SCOTCH EPISCOPACY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE ANTI-JACOBIN REVIEW.

SIR,

AS I consider the Anti-Jacobin Review devoted to the support of Episcopacy, and the promotion of unity in the church, I hope you will have no objections to insert the following reply to a pamphlet which is circulated in Scotland, for the purpose of perpetuating division among the Episcopalians in this part of the United Kingdom.

I am, Sir, your most humble servant,

Banff, May 15, 1806. ———.

Of all the subjects that can engage the attention of mankind, none is more important than religion, on account of its connexion with our happiness. Hence, in considering this subject, it is our interest to employ the most watchful care against the seducing influence of prejudice. To this there is no person who does not assent. Yet it will be found in fact, that in no discussions has prejudice operated more frequently, and with greater power, than in those which concern religion. Many instances might be produced of this truth; but I am acquainted with no recent one, which is to me so striking as the apology of Dr. Grant.

Dr. Grant acknowledges himself to be one of those Episcopal Clergymen, officiating in Scotland, who withhold, and, it seems, are resolved to withhold, submission to the spiritual authority of the Scotch Bishops. In vindication of this conduct he affirms, that the Episcopal Church of Scotland differs widely both in principle and practice from the Church of England; nay, that there is an *essential* difference between these two churches. This, therefore, is the point to be examined.

The articles of faith, authoritatively set forth by a church, are understood to declare her principles. Hence, between two churches which receive the very same articles of faith, there can be no essential difference. But the Episcopal Church of Scotland receives the very same Articles of Faith that the Church of England does. The conclusion is obvious.

With respect to the Canons of the Church of England, as far as they relate to doctrinal matters, they must agree with the Thirty-nine Articles; and are, therefore, received, at least virtually, by the Episcopal Church of Scotland. In what belongs to order and discipline, they are regulations which no doubt are wisely adapted to the state of things in the Church of England, but which a dissimilarity of situations makes it impossible for the Episcopal Church of Scotland to adopt. But this forms no essential difference between the two Churches. For things which pertain to order and discipline are in themselves of a mutable character; and every Church is at liberty to do with regard to them what she

she judges to be, in her circumstances, most conducive to edification; and this the Church of England herself expressly affirms in the quotation which Dr. Grant cites from the Preface to her Liturgy, at the 7th page of his Apology. It follows, that whatever obligation the Canons of the Church of England may impose on her Clergy, while they exercise their sacred office within the bounds of her jurisdiction, they can impose none on them, when a change of place brings them within the jurisdiction of another *sound* part of the universal Church.

The Episcopal Church of Scotland does not, indeed, use the Communion-office of the Church of England. Still this makes no essential difference between the two Churches. For, is it probable, that such a difference can arise from a Communion-office which was reviewed and approved by an Archbishop and a Bishop of the Church of England? But the Communion-office of the Episcopal Church of Scotland is, with very little alteration, that one which, when drawn up expressly for her use, was reviewed and approved by Archbishop Laud and Bishop Wrenn. It appears to have been composed on the model of the first reformed Communion-office of the Church of England, which, be it observed, was not laid aside on account of any errors said to be discovered in it, but for very different reasons. To which it may be proper to add, that the Communion-office of the Episcopal Church of Scotland contains nothing which the most celebrated Divines of the Church of England have not asserted and maintained. Of this the writings of Andrews, Mede, Taylor, Bull, &c. afford abundant proof.

But to be a little more particular:—That the souls of the faithful deceased may receive advantage, and an increase of happiness from the prayers of the living, is an opinion which has been contended for by some Divines both of the Church of England, and of the Episcopal Church of Scotland. For my own part, I see no sufficient evidence for this opinion; and I do not consider it as having any place at all in the Communion-office of the latter. The Episcopal Church of Scotland, in her Communion-office, does, it is true, suppose the existence of a middle state, and expresses her belief of the immortality of the soul, and the communion of saints, by *commemorating* the faithful departed. But what the Episcopal Church of Scotland does in her Communion-office, the Church of England, in her 55th canon, directs all preachers to do before their sermons; and actually does in the office for the Burial of the Dead, in the prayer which begins, "Almighty God." On this point, then, there is no essential difference between the two churches.

The Prayer of Consecration, in the Communion-office of the Episcopal Church of Scotland, contains an invocation of the Holy Spirit, that the creatures of bread and wine may become the body and blood of God's most dearly-beloved Son. This, Dr. Grant insinuates, is favourable to the Popish doctrine of transubstantiation. But his insinuation is perfectly groundless. When Jesus Christ instituted the Lord's Supper, he called the elements of bread and wine, his body and his blood. And can any false doctrine be countenanced by a Church which prays, that the elements of bread and wine may become what Jesus Christ himself called them? Since Jesus Christ called the elements of bread and wine his body and his blood, they must be so in some sense. But in what sense are they his body and his blood? The Episcopal Church of Scotland believes, that

the elements of bread and wine are the body and the blood of Jesus Christ, in the same sense that a picture is said to be the person whom it represents, and that a deed which conveys an estate is said to be the estate itself. Consequently, the invocation in question is inconsistent with the Popish doctrine of transubstantiation; and, indeed, with every notion of a corporeal presence of the Redeemer in the Holy Sacrament.—This, it is presumed, is strictly conformable to the doctrine of the Church of England.

By the Episcopal Church of Scotland, the wine in the eucharistic cup is mixed with water; and in her Communion-office are omitted the words which Dr. Grant mentions. The mixture has a reference to the blood and water which flowed from the Redeemer's side, when it was pierced on the cross; and the omissions are founded on the explication which has been given of her doctrine under the two last articles. From that explication it appears, that her doctrine on the subject of those Articles is the same as the doctrine of the Church of England. And can a practice, designed to remind communicants of an important event in the history of the Redeemer, make her differ essentially from the Church of England, who has dropped that practice?

Thus the things in the Communion-office of the Episcopal Church of Scotland, mentioned by Dr. Grant, are liable to no such objection as he brings against them. The reasons for them would lead to a discussion foreign to the present subject of dispute. I must observe, however, that they have not merely the stamp of antiquity, as Dr. Grant would have it believed; they have also the stamp of universality and consent; and antiquity, universality, and consent, form a rule, which, however much overlooked or despised in these days, will be found the best that can be followed in all matters of a religious nature. But although, on this account, the Episcopal Church of Scotland may regard her own Communion-office with deserved preference; yet she is far, very far from condemning that of the Church of England. On the contrary, she has given it her sanction, by allowing it to be used in several of her congregations, which wished for it. This, indeed, occasions a diversity; but it is such a diversity as existed in the primitive churches, and obtains, at present, in the Episcopal Church of America; and there is nothing like experience to support Dr. Grant in saying, that it introduces division, and promotes confusion.

Finally, it is indubitable upon Episcopalian principles, that every clergyman who comes into a diocese, in any part of the church, to exercise his office, ought to submit to the spiritual authority of the Bishop of that Diocese, provided he be an orthodox Bishop, and require no unlawful terms of communion; and that every clergyman who does not this, is so far irregular as to fall into schism. Are, then, the Scotch Bishops orthodox Bishops? Do they require no unlawful terms of communion? That they are orthodox Bishops, and require no unlawful terms of communion, is so evident, and indeed so generally allowed, that it may be taken for granted. What, therefore, Dr. Grant says with respect to Chaplains to English factories and congregations in foreign countries, and Bishops of the Greek and Roman Church, applies not to the situation of himself and of his brethren in Scotland; and, if there is any truth in the principles which he and they, as Episcopal Clergymen profess, they

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are Irregular, they are schismatics, as long as they exercise their ministry in Scotland, in a state of separation from the Communion of the Scotch Bishops.

Notwithstanding this state of separation, which upon Episcopalian principles I call schismatical, Dr. Grant intimates with no small satisfaction, the English Bishops think very well of him and of his brethren in Scotland. But how well soever the English Bishops may think of him and them on other accounts, I take it upon me to affirm, without any fear of contradiction, that they think not well of their conduct in this instance. What Episcopalian, indeed, who knows and values his own principles, can think well of a conduct, by which groundless division is kept up, and the cause in which he must be interested is weakened, and exposed to the scorn of its exulting enemies? Of so great importance is the unity of the Church, that it formed a part of the solemn intercessory prayer which the Son of God offered up to his heavenly Father, immediately before his sufferings and death. And are those clergymen, his *faithful* ambassadors who, instead of pursuing measures which tend to promote union, labour to find out pretexts for perpetuating division? If Dr. Grant is determined to act this part, I hope there is not an Episcopal Clergyman in Scotland who will follow his example.

ORTHODOXUS.

DR. CROFT—VERBUM SAT—AND THE ANTI-JACOBIN REVIEW.

Dix in vobis Atticam hos *esse elegantiam?*

Did I not tell you that they are Attic elegance itself?

SIR,

I inclose you a letter of which I only conjecture that it comes from the North, as there is no post-mark upon it. I have had occasion to give specimens heretofore of the Attic elegance of evangelical preachers in their sermons; you have now a sample of letter-writing. This anonymous correspondent threatens *you*, and the authors of the Christian Observer were lately menaced by the followers of Westley. Such is the Christian meekness of the saints of all descriptions. The inhabitants of this place well know, with what *personal insolence* I have been treated, and I am so habituated to calumny, that I receive such reproaches with most sovereign contempt; and if it were not to lessen delusion, and to advance the cause of true religion, I would disdain to write a syllable against the very leaders, either clergy or laity.

When your readers have been satiated with the verbiage of Verbum Sat, it may gratify them to read a genuine letter of the late facetious Vice-principal of Magdalen-hall, from which a small extract was given in one of your earliest Numbers.

I am, Sir, your humble servant,

G. CROFT.

In answer to an inquiry, whether *Mr.* Dr. Hawes could have a degree in Oxford.

DEAR SIR,

All pretended saints love upper crust: their avarice and ambition are insatiable. As to the spiritual tradesman you mention, you may assure him, that he will never be graduated in this University. Did he never hear of Glasgow, or the Lake of Geneva? Let him dive in the latter, or go to the shops of the former, for what he wants and doth not deserve. .....I am sorry for W——'s bad health; but much more for his having destroyed his usefulness, by herding with wolves in sheep's clothing.

The Principal wishes you much felicity, as doth yours, &c.

July 23, 1771. JOHN ALLEN.

REVEREND SIR,

Never did the Anti-Jacobin Review so offend my feelings, and those of every dispassionate reader, as by the admission of your late letter. Your ungentlemanlike attack upon a worthy tutor in Oxford, is mean, and reduces you on a level with some of the pugilistic race. One would fancy he and you had been competitors for some situation, and so your hatred remained *alta mente repositum*. In St. Mary's I have heard you, and likewise the said Vice-principal: talents, and sound theological knowledge, greatly preponderated in the gentleman who is now honoured with your slanderous effusions. I belonged to a college, equally, if not more, respectable than your own. No aulite, therefore, is now advising you to follow peace with all men (especially pious and well-informed persons). As to holiness, your deeds prove you to be one of those who rely on the effusions of a bigotted persecuting mind, for in place of, and as a substitute for, the amiable and genuine fruits of Christianity.

Calvin, I believe, procured the death of Servetus. An horrid proof, Sir, of a similar persecuting temper do your productions manifest. Unless you will humble yourself to make the *amende honorable*, let me take the liberty of telling you, that *you'll be damned to everlasting fame;* to be despised by all sensible people whilst you breathe, and your memory held in detestation and bhorrence when you rot, will assuredly be your lot,

If Mr. C. of Oxon, be not culpably mild—if he be not, to an excess, in the habit of passing over insults, and covering scoundrels with the Christian mantle of forgiveness—he will bring you, my dear Doctor, under the paws of some of the harpies of the laws. *Laws are for the lawless;* and a most egregious ignorance of the laws of religion, politeness, aye, even of common civility, is exemplified in your productions. And that once useful publication, the Anti-Jacobin Review, will soon be discontinued *(crede mihi)* by several, if scrawlers like you are permitted so to defile its pages. Let reason and religion operate on your mind, I beseech you; then, instead of being, as heretofore, a nuisance as an uncultivated *Croft*, you may have, probably, the satisfaction of becoming a *fruitful field*.

Yours, &c,

VERBUM SAT.

POETRY,

POETRY.

ELIJAH'S MANTLE.

(VIDE SECOND CHAPTER, SECOND BOOK OF KINGS.)

WHEN by th' Almighty's dread command,
ELIJAH (called from Israel's land),
Rose in the sacred flame,
His Mantle good ELIJAH caught,
And with the Prophet's spirit fraught,
Her second hope became.

In PITT our Israel saw combined,
The Patriot heart, the Prophet's mind,
ELIJAH's spirit here;
Now (sad reverse!) that Spirit's reft,
No confidence, no hope is left,
For no ELISHA's near.

GRENVILLE—to aid thy Treas'ry fame
A portion of his Mantle claim,
PITT's gen'rous ardour feel:
'Bove soldid self resolve to soar,
Amidst Exchequer gold, be poor,
Thy wealth, a Nation's weal.

Fox—if on thee some remnant fall,
The shred may to thy mind recal
Those hours of loud debate;
When thy unhallow'd lips oft prais'd
The glorious fabric traitors rais'd
On Bourbon's fallen State.

Thy soul let PITT's example fire,
With Patriot zeal thy tongue inspire,
Spite of thy Gallic leaven;
And teach thee, in thy latest day,
His Form of Pray'r (if thou cans't pray),
'O save my Country, Heaven!'

WINDHAM—if e'er thy sorrows flow
At private loss, or public woe,
Thy rigid brow unbend;
Tears over CÆSAR, BRUTUS shed,
His hatred warr'd not with the dead,
And PITT was once thy friend.

Does Envy bid thee *not* to mourn?
Hold then his Mantle up to scorn,
His well-earn'd fame assail;

Of

Of funeral honours rob his corse,
And at his virtues, till thou'rt hoarse,
Like the Greek Cynic * rail.

Illustrious Roscius of the State,
New breech'd and harness'd for debate,
Thou wonder of thy age!!!
PETTY, or BETTY, art thou hight †,
By Granta sent to strut thy night,
On Stephen's bustling stage.

PITT's 'Chequer robe 'tis thine to wear,
Take of his mantle too a share,
'Twill aid thy Ways and Means;
And should fat Jack and his cabal,
Cry, "rob us the Exchequer, Hal!"
'Twill charm away the fiends.

Sage PALINURUS of the realm,
By VINCENT call'd to take the helm,
And play his proxy's ‡ part,
Dost thou or star, or compass know,
Can'st steer aloft, or hand below,
Hast conn'd the seaman's chart?

No! from PITT's mantle tear a rag,
Enough to serve thee for a flag,
And hoist it on thy mast;
Beneath that sign (our prosp'rous star)
Shall future NELSONS rush to war,
And rival victories past.

SIDMOUTH—though low that head is laid
That call'd thee from thy native shade,
And gave thee second birth;
Gave thee, the sweets of power and place,
The tufted robe—the gilded mace,
And rear'd thy puny worth:

Think how his mantle wrapp'd thee round;
Is one of equal value found,
Amongst thy *new* Compeers?
Or can thy cloak of Amiens-stuff,
Once laugh'd to scorn by blue and buff,
Hide thee from WINDHAM's jeers?

When faction threaten'd Britain's land,
Thy new made friends—a desperate band,
Like AHAB stood reprov'd;

---

* Thersites. † An obsolete word for "*called.*" ‡ Howick.

PITT's

PITT's powerful tongue their rage could check;
His counsel sav'd, 'midst general wreck,
The Israel that he lov'd.

Yes, honour'd Shade! whilst near thy Grave
The letter'd Sage, and Chieftain brave,
The votive marble claim;
O'er thy cold corse—the public tear,
Congeal'd, a crystal Shrine shall rear,
Unsullied as thy Fame!!

Written March, 1806.

AN ADDRESS FOR THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE LITERARY FUND, AT FREEMASONS'-HALL, MAY 8, 1806.

WRITTEN AND RECITED BY WILLIAM THOMAS FITZGERALD, ESQ.

NOW many a fleeting year has pass'd away,
Since first my muse, with unambitious lay,
Was eager to promote your gen'rous plan,
Which succours merit and ennobles man.
Each step you took some obstacle arose—
The fate of Genius is to have its foes!
Dawning success your ceaseless cares attend,
Science revives, for Brunswick is her friend:
The crystal drop thus falls unseen, unknown,
And yet in time it perforates the stone.

That Power, who wisely on mankind bestows
A thirst for happiness, and dread of woes;
Could ne'er ordain the learned, and the wise,
To sink in want, while vice and folly rise.

Go, and explore the prison's gloomy cell,
Where pale disease, and hopeless misery dwell;
Oft will you find the man of letters there,
Torpid with grief, or frantic with despair!
Behold his children meet his ghastly eye,
Asking that bread he has not to supply;
While, like a lily bending to the shower,
The beauteous partner of his happier hour,
With all a wife's and mother's cares opprest,
Sinks her pale cheek upon her husband's breast—
Stone-moulded hearts—for such there are 'mongst men,
Think he may find subsistence from his pen;
Spare the reproach!—is this a time t' inspire
The slave of poverty to wake the lyre;
Can genius soar! can fancy warm the brain!
Of the poor victim of distress and pain?
Who hopeless sees, to blast his wish for life,
A starving offspring, and a dying wife!
But as the breeze, and heav'n-descending dew,
In drooping flowers their vivid tints renew;

Give

Give a fresh verdure to the arid plain,
And make the face of Nature smile again!
So shall your bounty these dark mansions cheer,
Warm the cold heart, and charm away the tear;
Bid genius to new flights of fancy soar,
Science rejoice, and learning pine no more!
The muse's heart with inspiration fire,
Tyrtæus like, to strike the patriot lyre—
The poet, arm'd in England's sacred cause,
Courts not the feather of a vain applause;
Not prone to flatter pow'r, or pow'r oppose,
And only hostile to his country's foes!
Like Hannibal, he swears eternal hate
To him—the opposite of all that's great;
Each tear the Tyrant draws from virtue's eye,
A watchful angel registers on high;
And in the awful record will appear,
The tyrant's groan for groan, and tear for tear!
On servile nations let the despot tread,
They well deserve the yoke who bow the head;
Yet freedom shackled sinks but for an hour,
The spring confin'd accumulates its power;
Thus realms enslav'd, by sad experience wise,
Must in the end on their oppressor rise;
The chain can only gall those slaves who yield,
The bold find safety in the tented field!
There freedom's sons can never lose the day,
Unless like cowards they themselves betray:
Fate leaves this choice for ever to the brave—
A life of honour, or a laurel'd grave!
And brings these bright examples to our sight,
To die like NELSON! or endure like WRIGHT*.

Among ourselves we often may contend,
A watchful jealousy is freedom's friend;
Thus sudden storms, and elemental strife,
Leave purer air to renovated life:
But never let the foe presume to find,
Amidst our party feuds one traitor mind;
INVASION would unite each heart, each hand,
In one great cause—our King and Native Land!
And were our bulwarks of the sea surpast,
And Gallia's legions on our plains at last;
Though they escap'd our vengeance on the wave,
Here they should find their everlasting grave.

---

* Whether the gallant Captain Wright has fallen a victim to TORTURE, or still drags out a miserable existence in a French prison—his cruel treatment, contrary to the laws of war, and the dignity with which he defied the malice of a tyrant, have not been sufficiently brought before the public eye.

Nations

Nations oppress'd by plund'ring France should see
The dreadful triumph of a people free;
Who, 'midst the wreck of Europe, stand unaw'd
By Gallic violence, or Prussian fraud;
Who nobly feel their MONARCH'S WRONGS their own,
Attach'd by ev'ry virtue to his Throne!
And, at their Naval Hero's trophied shrine,
* They swear, by all things human and divine!
* By all that bad mean fear, and good adore!
* No foreign tyrant shall pollute our shore.'
ENGLAND herself will ENGLAND'S cause maintain,
* And prove that NELSON has not died in vain!

[The three lines marked * * * are taken from one of the author's Prologues.]

TO OUR READERS.

IN the present state of Foreign and Domestic Politics, when every thing is, as it were, in suspense, and public expectation is harassed by rumours of *Peace*, it would be alike presumptuous and unsatisfactory to take our usual succinct view of the political world, without any certain data on which to found reasonable conclusions. A negotiation with France is certainly on foot; and we shall only remind our readers, that Mr. Fox stands solemnly pledged to the Public, not to sacrifice *one jot of the honour of the Country*. If he redeem this pledge, and succeed in concluding a Peace, at once honourable and secure, and with as fair a prospect of permanency as a Peace, concluded at this period, can possibly afford, he will unquestionably deserve the thanks of the Nation, and, as unquestionably, he will receive them. Should a Peace be concluded, which, we confess, we do not expect, we shall examine its merits by this standard, and deliver our opinion of it with fairness and impartiality.

We shall advert only to two circumstances in our Domestic Politics.—The first is the acquittal of Lord MELVILLE, on which we heartily congratulate his Lordship and the Country. Our readers will do us the justice to remember, that we were the *only* public writers who, at the very outset of this business, laboured to stem the tide of popular prejudice and calumny, most wickedly excited, and most insidiously fed. We maintained, in the teeth of the Managers, and of the majority of the House of Commons, that his Lordship *had not violated the Act of Parliament*; and we have the satisfaction to know, that *eleven of the Judges* delivered the same opinion. The opinion of the twelfth, on that and on other points on which he stood alone, sufficiently demonstrate the wisdom of those who objected to the unconstitutional union of the two characters of *Judge and Cabinet Minister* in one man. Lord HENRY PETTY, unless the report of his speech in the public papers was most egregiously misrepresented, declared that he should feel it a duty, in the event of Lord MELVILLE'S acquittal, to submit to the House a Motion for indemnifying his Lord-

ship

ship from the heavy expences to which he would be subjected by the determination of the House, to bring him to trial in Westminster-Hall, and not at the Bar of the House of Peers. So will Lord HENRY PETTY's declaration stand in the parliamentary history of the country; and, if he do not act up to it, he must abide by the consequences, which cannot be very favourable to his public character. Great as the injury done to the Noble Viscount has been, signal should be the reparation: this the nation expect—and this the nation will require.

The other circumstance to which we allude, is the scandalous conduct of most of the public prints, in commenting upon an affair of the greatest delicacy, and of the greatest consequence. We have heard much on this atrocious business—for a more atrocious attempt to calumniate unspotted virtue, and to degrade illustrious rank, has seldom been made; but we know too well our own duty to do that ourselves which we condemn in others. We trust that in this, as in all cases, ample *justice* will be done to all parties. The matter has now become so public, that the fullest investigation must take place; and, when the falsehood of the infamous charge shall have been completely demonstrated, let the wretches who preferred it, whatever be their stations in life, be dragged before the public tribunals of the country, and, after receiving the punishment due to their crimes, be devoted to the execration of every honest man it contains. To the illustrious object of this horrible calumny, the country has indeed great, very great reparation to make! If she be injured herself in the most sensible point, the sordid prints of the day are as silent as the grave; and not a voice is up-raised in her favour! But no sooner is a charge, the most monstrous, the most improbable, preferred against her, than it becomes their *duty* forsooth to deal forth their insinuations to their readers, and to render it a topic of public conversation, and of public comment! Englishmen should blush at such conduct! It is disgraceful alike to the country and to the age!

There is still one other point, not of a *political*, but of a *legal* nature, that requires a word of notice. A most horrible combination, of a most unnatural kind, has been detected in this kingdom, implicating persons of rank and consequence; but we trust that the foul business will be sifted to the very bottom, and that the result will prove that the scales of justice are still holden with an even hand, and that no subject of a British Monarch is *above the law!*

THE PICTONIAN PROSECUTION.

WE have not been able to continue our account of this very extraordinary prosecution, in the present Number, from having returned two of the pamphlets (which we had borrowed) for a particular purpose.—Meanwhile we cannot but express our satisfaction that Mr. SULLIVAN has been able to make an affidavit, in complete contradiction to that of Dr. LYNCH: and, consequently, in repulsion of the charge preferred against him. If, however, we had been in that gentleman's place, we should have preferred a *civil action* to a *criminal information*, as it would have afforded the defendant an opportunity of putting in a plea of justification,

tion, which he cannot now do. Two more actions have been brought in the same cause; so that it will, at least, afford a plentiful harvest for the lawyers. Some friend, or agent of Mr. FULLARTON, has endeavoured to frighten our Publisher, by threatening to send him to *Newgate*, for the *libel* which appeared in our last. But that Gentleman may be assured that no threats of his shall deter us from the conscientious discharge of our duty; and we shall certainly resume our review of the various publications respecting this prosecution, as soon as we receive the pamphlets adverted to above. As to the *libel*, we took all possible pains not to write one in this case; and, if we know any thing of the law of libels, there is not the smallest pretext for charging us with having written one.—Indeed we never will, knowingly, offend the law; but Mr. FULLARTON and the law are not yet identified; and we may offend the former without violating the latter. In this, however, we have no interest, no concern, no object whatever, but the establishment of truth, and the promotion of justice. We know neither of the parties, not even by sight. We have, since our last Number appeared, seen a letter from Trinidad, of May 5, containing an account of the proceedings of the Governor and Council respecting the prosecution of General PICTON, before whom it was *proved*, that *torture* is authorized and commanded by the law of Spain, prevalent in the Island, and was actually inflicted before the arrival of Governor PICTON at Trinidad. So much for the case of Mrs. FULLARTON'S *protegée*, the *amiable* and *interesting Miss* LOUISA CALDERON; and so much for the verdict of that English Jury who determined that *torture* was not legal in *Trinidad!!*

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE author of a still-born work, entitled "*The Forest Pruner*," mistaking the attention paid to the subject of planting, for that of the supposed "merits" of his book in the Anti-Jacobin Review, has addressed a Letter to the Editor, in which he requires the Reviewer to *teach* him his errors. Had he, indeed, presented himself as an honest inquirer into the laws of the vegetable economy, he should have had, most willingly, every possible assistance; and might have consulted the notes and observations made on trees at various places and seasons, from the vicinity of the regions of eternal snows, to that of a tropical sun. But the boasting jargon of presumptuous ignorance, which styles itself the "advocate of truth and nature," is however too contemptible to merit the attention of any man of real science; and, had the author not displayed profound knowledge of the modern arts of quackery, by grossly and *cunningly* perverting the obvious meaning of the Reviewer's words, in order to draw from them an unmerited approbation, and *puff* off his book, that Letter should have met the contempt its gasconading ignorance deserves. The Reviewer's rigid impartiality induced him to confine his censures merely to the book, by candidly avowing his belief, that the author's "*manual* method" *might* be as good as any other woodman's.—It was not designed to assert any thing but facts known by the Reviewer;

and

and it was therefore taken for granted that the author possessed *muscular* power sufficient to cut the branches of trees; but it was more than insinuated that he did *not* possess *knowledge* sufficient to instruct others in that art, and that his skill was entirely *mechanical*, acquired by habit. To decline giving extracts from such a tissue of invidious, vague declamation, was an act of compassion to the author and our readers. As a "cheap defence," however, we shall here refer him to some pages; as at page 13, his ignorance of authors; pages 21-2, false opinions; pages 50, 52, 54-5, false, absurd sheer nonsense; page 61, trite; pages 62, 66, 70, grossly false and ignorant; pages 78, 110, childish falsehoods; pages 126-7, ridiculous verbiage, and pompous nonsense; page 140, methodistical rant, and most pernicious advice; pages 149, 151-2, false assertions, quibbles on words, and tacit confessions of inability; page 156, a contradiction of page 78; page 157, avowal of incapacity, or mismanagement; pages 170-1, repetitions of errors; pages 174-5, method of growing ship-timber, by making the spreading branches of one, drive off all the others around it at a tangent! *Invidia infelix vitæ vitalia videt.* The author has here been at a loss for a subject of abuse, or a means of displaying his own fancied superiority, and has accordingly produced an absurd plan, too silly even for the projects of a school-boy. Pages 205, 210, false notions and idle bombast; but at page 215 occurs a most pernicious and ruinous advice, which merits the severest reprobation. Indeed, out of 270 pages, it would be difficult to find one unexceptionably good. With the vain pretensions and quackery of the author, it is not the design of the Reviewer to interfere, and he thus finally dismisses the book to its impending oblivion, consoling himself that the "Forest Pruner," (perhaps the writer meant Forest Tree Pruner) is too contemptible to effect any serious injury to the timber of the United Kingdom.

We have received from Dr. E. a *Pamphlet*, a *Prospectus*, and a *Letter*, the two last of which only we have yet been able to read. The Letter contains many judicious and excellent remarks; and the Plan there alluded to, as far as we can judge from its object, is deserving of all possible encouragement, and has our most hearty wishes for its success. The Pamphlet shall be read with attention, and reviewed with impartiality.—The Doctor's former publications, to which he alludes, we should be glad to receive.

The *London Chemical Society* are informed, that their communication cannot be inserted, unless paid for as an advertisement.

We do not remember to have ever seen the *Domestic Pharmacopeia*, mentioned by W. N.

We acknowledge the receipt of a very polite letter from the intelligent Editor of "Gleanings from Zimmerman's Solitude." We still retain our strong objection to the expression which we censured, which is *absolute nonsense*, as used by the translator; but we acknowledge our omission to mention, that the fault lay with the Translator, and not with the Editor of the Gleanings. We highly approve of the alteration proposed by Mrs. B. and will here suggest that those translations are incomparably the best, in which the *spirit* of the original is preserved, without a servile adherence to the *letter*.

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